Presidential aide confirms Gloria running in 2004

STORY ON PAGE A2

'Go ahead, shoot me, but look me in the face'

ERFURT, Germany—The story of a soft-spoken history teacher who stopped the gun-wielding student behind Germany's worst post-war massacre brought a measure of comfort to a stunned nation on Sunday.

German media branded Rainer Heise a hero for confronting teen killer Robert Steinhaeuser with no more than a few gentle

GO/A6

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

NY Times reports US plan to attack Iraq

NEW YORK—The Bush administration is plotting a potential major air campaign and ground invasion early next year to topple the Iraqi government of President Saddam Hussein, the New York Times reported in Sunday editions.

The use of 70,000 to 250,000 troops is being considered, the Times said.

President George W. Bush has not

NY TIMES/A20

e-mail: feedback@inquirer.com.ph
Monday, April 29, 2002 ★ 82 pages / 7 sections / vol.17 / no. 140 P15
website: www.inq7.net

US military chief visits troops in Basilan

GEN. Richard Myers tells the press that the Basilan operation has been "a great success so far." Beside him is Southcom chief Lt. Gen. Roy Cimatu. VAL HANDUMON

Filipino, US soldiers throw tight security net around Myers

By Julie S. Alipala
PDI Mindanao Bureau
and Martin P. Marfil, *in Manila*

ZAMBOANGA CITY—A "great success so far," said US President George W. Bush's principal military adviser of US operations in Mindanao, the second theater of the US campaign against international terrorism.

Gen. Richard Myers, chair of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, gave the assessment yesterday after visiting Basilan Island, stronghold of the Abu Sayyaf, a bandit group linked to the al-Qaida terrorist network of Osama bin Laden.

Myer's favorable assessment came despite the Philippine military's failure to rescue American couple Martin and Gracia Burnham, who are being held hostage by the Abu Sayyaf for almost a year now.

American soldiers, including 160 Special Forces in Basilan, are training Filipino soldiers so that they can crush the Abu Sayyaf.

"I talked to the US advisers, I met some of the AFP battalions there (Basilan) (and) we discussed in general the status (of the operation) and everybody seems to be happy," Myers told reporters in Zamboanga, the command base of the joint military exercises.

Myers was accompanied by Lt. Gen. Roy Cimatu, Philippine military Southern Command chief, to the army's 103rd Brigade in the village of Tabiawan, near Basilan's capital Isabela, for a security briefing with US forces.

In all, there are more than 1,000 American soldiers in Mindanao, the largest deployment of the US military abroad since the anti-terror campaign began in Afghanistan in October.

US/A20

US SOLDIERS rest during a break in their marksmanship training at the Marine base in Ternate, Cavite, where one leg of the ongoing Balikatan military exercises is being conducted. DENNIS SABANGAN

'NO OVERKILL'

Palace defends May 1 security plan

DEPLOYING thousands of policemen to defend Malacañang on May 1 is not overkill, acting Press Secretary Silvestre Afable yesterday said.

"We really have to put policemen in large numbers to serve as a deterrent to violence," Afable said. "If it's true that there are people planning to create trouble, we need a deterrent for the public's peace of mind."

Afable said that 6,000 members of the Philippine National Police would be deployed at the Palace and not 10,000 as earlier announced by the Western Police District.

Security forces are bracing for a possible repeat of last year's May 1 "revolt of the poor" that sparked deadly riots around Malacañang.

Last year's riots were viewed by the government primarily as a campaign to help Estrada, who was deposed four months earlier in a popular revolt and is now in jail facing corruption charges.

Besides the deployment of thousands of policemen, authorities have taken other measures to control this year's march.

State censors last week banned a television documentary on Estrada that accused big business, the Catholic Church and the camp of then Vice President Macapagal-Arroyo of having conspired to depose him.

Police have arrested the man accused of

PALACE/A20

AFP probes raps linking soldiers to Arlyn kidnap

By Julie S. Alipala
PDI Mindanao Bureau
and Carlito Pablo *in Manila*

ZAMBOANGA CITY—The military has started investigating the charges of freed kidnapped journalist Arlyn de la Cruz that some of her captors are active members of the Armed Forces—even without waiting for De la Cruz to file a formal complaint.

Lt. Gen. Roy Cimatu, chief of the Southern Command, told reporters yesterday that he had already ordered a formal investigation.

"I have already directed Gen. (Glicerio) Sua to look deeper (into) this disclosure," Cimatu said.

Sua, chief of Task Force Comet, said he immediately ordered Col. Romeo Tolentino, commander of the Army's 104th Infantry Brigade based in Sulu, to start the probe even in the absence of a complaint from Dela Cruz.

In Malacañang, acting Press Secretary Silvestre Afable said the Palace had no knowledge of the negotiations, because the military was not involved in the talks. "So nothing was reported to our level," he said.

He added, however, that the Palace would order an investi-

AFP/20

MAY 1 DATE. Anti-riot troops from the Philippine National Police show their wares during competition on civil disturbance management tactics at the Luneta grounds on Sunday. ERIK ARAZAS

We must rebuild badly damaged electoral system

By Amando Doronila

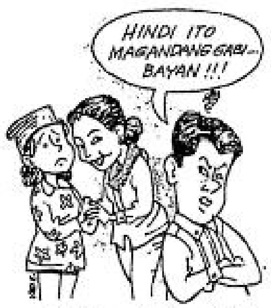
ANALYSIS

THE FICTITIOUS report that members of the so-called Freedom Force have sought Jaime Cardinal Sin's blessings in the formation of a junta to replace President Macapagal-Arroyo has unnecessarily rattled the nerves of the political establishment.

The nervousness sprang from the concept that a hypothetical social explosion (read revolution) would give birth to middle forces that are expected to save the nation from a predicted epic power struggle between the Left and the Right, and from another dictatorship.

The formulation that a "collective leader-

WE/A19



HINDI ITO MAGANDANG GABI... BAYAN !!!

Noli virtually accuses Loren of credit-grabbing

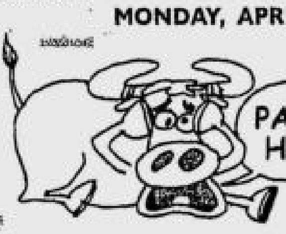
By Rocky Nazareno

HEY, that's my line! The already controversial case of broadcast journalist Arlyn de la Cruz looks set to become even more talked about, after Sen. Noli de Castro suggested yesterday that Sen. Loren Legarda was guilty of credit-grabbing.

Was it a case of the wrong TV anchor reading the right script?

NOLI/A20

Second FRONT PAGE


PAHELE-HELE PA!

POLITICAL MACHINERY BEING BUILT

Aide confirms GMA running in '04

By Carlito Pablo

SUPPORTERS of President Macapagal-Arroyo are putting up the political machinery to "consolidate support" for her in the present and to serve as the vehicle for her election bid in 2004.

The guy on top of this effort is Secretary Norberto Gonzales, presidential adviser for special concerns and chair of the Partido Demokratiko Sosyalista ng Pilipinas (PDSP).

In a candid interview with the INQUIRER last week, Gonzales admitted Ms Macapagal will run for election in 2004.

"Of course, she will run," he said.

When asked the same question again, he gave the same answer, this time adding: "If (she will) not (run), what (is all this) for?"

Gonzales revealed ongoing moves to establish two parallel coalitions to support the President: one among traditional politicians and the other comprising mass-based and civil society groups.

"This is the time to consolidate the support that the President needs to govern effectively," Gonzales said. "You need a political machinery not just for winning elections but to mobilize people for a common dream."

Gonzales said that at present what President Macapagal needs is a "solid political following" for the "effective implementation of her programs" of government.

When asked how the two coalitions would have a bearing on the 2004 presidential elections, Gonzales said: "Winning elections should be the consequence of good performance."

"Performance equals victory at the polls," he said.

Gonzales thus became the first of President Macapagal's closest advisers to openly acknowledge that the President will seek another fuller term in 2004.

"This design favors winning elections," Gonzales said of his group's organizing efforts.

Ms Macapagal had studiously evaded questions about her political plans.

Gonzales said the PDSP is in the process of putting up the "program-based" coalition among traditional politicians from the existing political parties.

"We are talking to members of the LP, the Cojuangco group and of course, Lakas," Gonzales said.

He was referring to the Liberal Party, the Nationalist People's Coalition of businessman Eduardo "Danding" Conjuangco and the ruling Lakas-NUCD party, respectively.

President Macapagal is the titular head of Lakas-NUCD although the party is more identified with former President Fidel Ramos and Speaker Jose de Venecia.

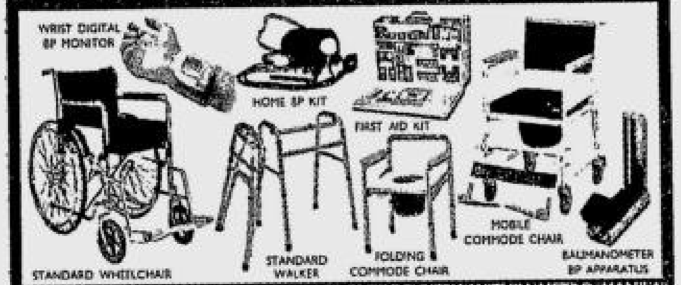
Gonzales, however, said the President's supporters were not forming a new political party but seeking unity on the basis of "talking points."

He did not mention the names of politicians being courted to join one of the parallel coalitions.

For the separate coalition of mass-based and civil society organizations, Gonzales said: "We are trying to put the popular movement in its right position in the body politic," noting that their power as organized groups could be harnessed for good governance.

traveling in appreciation of GOD's beautiful & bountiful creations
8 DAYS ROME US$ 1,470.00
8 DAYS SYDNEY & GOLDCOAST US$ 875.00
4 DAYS / 3 NIGHTS HONG KONG US$ 320.00
TRI-CITY TOUR HONG KONG-SHENZHEN & MACAU 4 DAYS / 3 NIGHTS US$375.00 Dep May 10 & 17
3 DAYS BORACAY P 8,037.00 with Airfare, Breakfast, Transfers Plus Island Boat with Lunch
PIRKKO & TROYTOURS, INC.
U-210 City & Land Mega Plaza, ADB Ave., cor Garnet St., Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Tels: 688-8658 • 688-8846 • 687-2694 Fax 688-8846
E-mail: troytours@info.com.ph

YOUR PARTNER IN HOME HEALTHCARE



ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED - FREE DELIVERY WITHIN METRO MANILA
For inquiries, please call or visit us at:
PROGRESSIVE MEDICAL CORPORATION
488 G. Araneta Ave., corner Del Monte Ave., Quezon City
Website: www.pmc-ph.com E-mail: wecare@pmc-ph.com
Tel: 732-3456
Fax: 687-2192

COPYSTAR OFFICE AUTOMATION
GET SHREDDER FOR EVERY PURCHASE OF COPIER
introducing CLEAR POWDER COPIER
RICOH FT 3320 for only P16,000
RICOH FT 3313/ FT 3213 P22,000
REDUCER / ENLARGER
ALSO AVAILABLE: THERMAL BINDER
LAMINATOR P3,800 SHREDDER P2,200 RING BINDER P8,000
Other copiers also available: FT 3313, FT 4018, FT 4418 FT 4421, FT 4220, FT 4222
SALES: 899-7101 up to 04 / 899-7045 • 899-7075 to 76 • 899-7023
MAIN OFFICE: COPYSTAR Bldg. 948 J. P. Rizal Ave., near corner Makati Ave., Makati City
Fax: 895-7802 • CEBU OFFICE: 178 Sanslangko St., Cebu City ☎ 255-0504 • 256-3368 to 69
PAMPANGA: McArthur Hi-way, Dolores San. Fdo., Pampanga ☎ 963-5055 to 59 • Fax: 963-5059

Lincolnshire Internationale Preschool
Offers:
- Nursery, Kindergarten, Preparatory, with a distinguished British curriculum
- Maximum of 12 students in a class
- Low teacher - student ratio, 1:4
- Highly qualified teachers
- Enrichment Programs
- Toddlers Class (1.0 - 2.5 years old)

NOW OPEN for RESERVATIONS for school year 2002-2003.
LIMITED SLOTS ONLY!
For more information:
Please call: 687-4360 / 687-4361
C2 Ground Floor, Goldloop Towers,
One Goldloop Plaza, Ortigas Center
Pasig City

INCA
SHAPING IDEAS INTO PLASTICS
EL NIÑO WATER TANK SALE PART II
2000 L 1500 L 1000 L 700 L 370L
INCA PLASTICS PHILIPPINES INC.
Tel. no.: 809-2776/809-2745/809-2730
Fax no.: 809-1106
website: http://www.inca.cjb.net
Provincial Toll Free: 1-800-1888-4622
HOW TO GET TO INCA
Bldg. 4 Philcrest Compound Km. 23 West Service Road, Cupang, Muntinlupa City
PROMO PERIOD APRIL 29- MAY 11, 2002

SIZE	HT.	DIA	LIST	Factory Direct Price
370L	33.5"	30"	P4,399	P3,550
700L	41"	37.5"	P6,050	P4,850
1000L	54.75"	39.75"	P8,789	P7,050
1500L	83.25"	39.75"	P11,770	P9,450
2000L	102"	39.75"	P13,750	P11,000

WE ALSO SELL TRASHBINS, DRUMS, BEDLINERS, TRAYS, CRATES, ROAD BARRIERS & CONES.
RULES:
- CASH ONLY FOR PICK UP AT FACTORY
- DELIVERY AVAILABLE AT P600.00 WITHIN METRO MANILA
- TANK COLOR BLUE

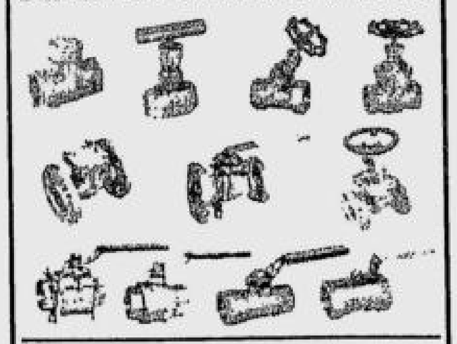
OUR LOWEST PRICE EVER ON GENUINE INCA WATER TANKS
- Food Grade Polyethylene material
- Won't rust, break, crack or chip
- Better than stainless steel
- FDA approved for safe, clean storage of water
- Ultra Violet Stabilized for sun protection

LET US TAKE YOUR (BAD) BREATH AWAY!
Regain the confidence taken away by bad breath. Our clinic offers safe, sure and discreet solution to this problem.
We have a unique bacteria locator, the HALIMETER apparatus complemented by the most effective patented medication and treatment.
Succeeding treatments are FREE!
Also Available: Teeth Bleaching • Dental Clinic For Lease/Sharing
Suite #224 Atrium Bldg., Makati Ave., Makati City
Tel. No. 811-4071 • 752-4735

100% Brand New & Recon COPIERS
RICOH • Canon • Olivetti • Savin
Summer Sale!
P15,000. ONLY POWDER TYPE FT 3320 220V, 60Hz
P11,500. ONLY LIQUID TYPE SAVIN 780 220 V, 60Hz
P46,500. ONLY BRAND NEW DIGITAL COPIER • PRINTER SR3-A
Now available lease to own / rentals
COPYTRADE®
Copytrade Bldg. 550 M' Jhocson St. Sampaloc, Manila (Nr. NU)
Tels. 749-8155 to 56 781-3472 • 749-8216
Prov'l Outlets: Cebu: (032)2532402 Cabanatuan City (0919)4673223 Tarlac: (0918)-5738497

HAVE A SMASHING SUMMER!
BIG DISCOUNT PACKAGES
Study at VERNON TAPALLA'S COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALISTS and THE WRITING INSTITUTE
CP 1 On Speech Improvement, Effective Self-Presentations & Personality Development
CP 2 On Grammar & Conversational English
CP 3 On Public Speaking & Leadership Training
WP 1 On Business & Technical Writing
WP 2 On Feature & Creative Writing
JCP 1&2 On Speech, Grammar, Public Speaking, Confidence Bldg., Personality Dev't., + Reading and Comprehension for kids
PRIVATE TUTORING & CORPORATE TRAINING ARE AVAILABLE
MAKATI - 845-0886 / 753-1048 TO 49
ALABANG - 850-4756 / 850-4757

STAINLESS STEEL VALVES



AN YIAC HARDWARE CO., INC.
HARDWARE INGENUITY, TRUSTWORTHY!
527 T. Alonzo St., Sta. Cruz, Mla.
Tel.: 733-5775/733-5776/733-5876/733-5874/733-5779/733-5744/734-1690
TELEFAX: 733-5859 Fax: 733-5860 • E-mail: anyiac@starnet.ph

SPEECHPOWER
SUMMER 2002 CLASSES BATCH 2
Two-Week Intensive Program
Monday to Friday - May 20 to 31
2.5 hours per session
- ENGLISH CONVERSATION FLUENCY
- INTENSIVE PRONUNCIATION COURSE
- ENGLISH CONVERSATION PRACTICE
- ENGLISH FOR FOREIGNERS
- INTENSIVE GRAMMAR REVIEW
- BUSINESS WRITING PROFICIENCY
- ORAL PRESENTATION SKILLS
- VOCABULARY ENRICHMENT COURSE
- SPEED READING & COMPREHENSION
- COURSES FOR CALL CENTER ASSOCIATES

Elementary & High School Levels
- SPEECHPOWER offers the widest range of reading, writing and speaking enrichment courses.

Come visit us for a course that meets your special needs.
SP-Cubao 9110832 to 34
SP-Taft 5236905; 5255310
SP-España 7257262; 7357256
SP-Biñan (049) 5113450; (0919) 5138121
www.speechpower.com.ph

RICOH COPIERS
We transact 24 Hours/Day From Monday To Sunday
Liquid Type P11,500 Only
Powder Type P15,000 Only
Bond Paper P65/rim Dispersant P42/ltr. U.S. SP. Toner P260/ltr.
KAI General Mdse. 716-6110 • 780-0302 • 780-0304
In front of PUP Engineering & Architecture Bldg. GC-1 Bldg 3 OSIS Metrohomes, Pureza, Sta. Mesa, Manila
LUZON: BAGUIO (074) 3041582 (918) 4223811
TARLAC (045) 8000409 (0918) 4858874
SAN FERNANDO (LA UNION) (0919) 3363314
DAET (054) 7215820
NAGA (054) 4720494
IRIGA (054) 6552024
LEGASPI (052) 8203346
MASBATE (056) 3332793
VISAYAS: CEBU (032) 4134148 (0917) 6062309
ILOILO (033) 3207020
TACLOBAN (053) 3253441 / (0918) 6516273
CATBALOGAN (055) 2512206
CALBAYOG (055) 2093322
MINDANAO: DAVAO (082) 2226824 / (0917) 7324178
GEN. SANTOS (083) 3020743
CAGAYAN DE ORO (088) 2313850 / (0919) 2403898
ILIGAN (063) 2215402
PAGADIAN (062) 2144851
COTABATO (064) 4216739 / (0918) 4247220

MOUNT SEA RESORT Hotel and Restaurant
163 Marcella St. Bagbag, Rosario Cavite
Tel# (046) 438 3888 Fax# (046) 438 3777
NOW ONLY... P150 NET PER HEAD
SWIMMING WITH FREE MEAL!
REGULAR PRICE : P 300/HEAD
Other Amenities/Facilities: 65 Air conditioned rooms, with mini refrigerator and cabled TV* Olympic-sized and Slide Pool*Filipino & Chinese Restaurant*Mini Zoo* Fishing Village*Pedal Boat*Volleyball*Basketball* Billiard*Obstacle Course*Function Room* Reception & Party Venues*
Near CEPZA Site, 24 Hours Transportation Accessibility
Only 40 Mins. or 28Kms. away from Manila!
Note: Applies only to Day Swimming. Not Valid on any other Promo. Cut this ad and present upon entrance to avail of promo.

4D	HONGKONG Package via Cebu Pacific	$248
	via PAL	$270
4D	Bangkok Package	$299
4D	Singapore Package	$340
5D	Canton/ Shenzhen/ Hongkong	$268
6D	Macau/Zhuhai/ Hongkong	$328
9D	Canton/ Shenzhen/ Hongkong	$348
5D	Canton/ Beijing	$398
10D	Canton/Foshan/ Beijing/Shanghai/ Hangzhou/ Shenzhen/Hongkong	$578
10D	Canton/Zhaoqing/ Foshan/Nanjing/ Suzhou/ Hangzhou/ Shanghai/Hongkong	$518
10D	Three Gorges Yangtze River Cruise - World's Super Dam Site	$828

PROMO FARES TO:

Hong Kong	$210
Bangkok	239
Singapore	265
Tokyo	409
Osaka	395
Seoul	370
Sydney	$530
Los Angeles	830
San Francisco	830
New York	910
Vancouver	830
Europe	780

UNION TRAVEL & TOURS
524-3943 or 44
524-8609 or 10
525-3034 or 45
525-3039
E-mail: uniontours@eastern.com.ph
PTAA TA-326

PALAWAN From P 8,888.00 DAILY DEP. 4D/3N VIA AIR PHIL / ASIAWORLD HOTEL
HONGKONG From $ 270 DAILY DEP. 4 DAYS/3 NITES VIA PAL
MACAU From $ 293 TUES/SAT DEP. 4 DAYS/3 NITES VIA AIR MACAU
BANGKOK From $ 258 DAILY DEP. 4 DAYS/3 NITES VIA TG625/PAL
BKK/PATTAYA From $ 288 DAILY DEP. 4 DAYS/3 NITES VIA TG625/PAL
BKK/PATTAYA/RAYONG From $ 329 DAILY DEP. 4 DAYS/3 NITES VIA TG625/PAL
SINGAPORE From $ 335 DAILY DEP. 4 DAYS/3 NITES VIA SQ/PAL
FREE CHOICES OF ANY TWO ADMISSION ATTRACTIONS TICKET OR MEALS
• Bum Boat Ride • Chinese Meal • Night Tours • India Veg. or Non-veg Meal • Bird Park • Singapore Cable Car Ride • Singapore MRT • Santosa • Singapore Discovery Centre • Singapore Botanic Garden • Singapore Snow City • Singapore Volcano Land • Singapore History Museum • Singapore Wax Museum
SIN/MALAYSIA/INDONESIA From $ 378 DAILY DEP. 4Days/3Nites VIA SQ/PAL
SAIGON From $ 313 3 Days/2 Nites VIA PAL - EVERY TUESDAY/THURSDAY/SATURDAY
KUALA LUMPUR From $ 480 4 Days/3 Nites VIA PAL - MON / WED / FRI / SAT DEPARTURE
SEOUL From $ 588 4 Days/3 Nites VIA PAL - DAILY DEPARTURE
All major credit cards are accepted.
We offer 3/6/12 Months Installment plans.
We Also offer 0% on all Citibank Card Holders.
Las Palmas TOURS AND TRAVEL
PTAA IATA DOT ACCR. NO. TO-116-96
MANILA OFFICE Tel # 5237786 to 87 • 5236610 • 5236836 5236884 • 5255107 • 5236902 • 5239451
MAKATI OFFICE Tel # 8401303 to 05 • 8171224 • 810-0107 to 08 • 810-0226 to 27
BOOKING AGENT
ANGELES PAMPANGA Tel # (045)3227176 • 8885621
SAN FERNANDO PAMPANGA Tel # (045) 9615339 • 8608365
CAVITE Tel # (046) 419-2785 • (046) 419-1246
WEBSITE: www.laspalmastours.com

LAFAYETTE PHARMACEUTICAL LABORATORIES, INC.
" Quality is our Best Policy"
QUALITY GENERICS AT VERY COMPETITIVE PRICES
We Welcome Distributors, Wholesalers and Retailers Nationwide
FOR INQUIRIES PLS. CALL
LAFAYETTE PHARMACEUTICALS
#132 13th Avenue Cubao, Q.C.
Tel.No.: 437-5139 / 913-3724
911 - 7292 / Telefax: 913-3723

HONGKONG $269 SINGAPORE $353 BANGKOK $321
STAR CRUISES
TICKET ONLY:

	US$		US$		US$
HONGKONG	221	KUALA	395	HONOLULU	809
BANGKOK	225	TAIPEI	318	LAX/SFO	830
SINGAPORE	258	XIAMEN	261	NEW YORK	910
OSAKA	383	MACAU	238	VANCOUVER	866
TOKYO	398	JAKARTA	376	SYDNEY	625
SEOUL	373	SAIGON	265	EUROPE	818

SEE YOUR TRAVEL AGENT OR CALL:
MAGELLAN WORLD TRAVEL, INC. PTAA
TELS:522-4321 * 521-9381 *526-5652 to 53 *522-4809 to 11
Fax# 521-0190 * 526-5658

BEST VALUE PACKAGES
HONGKONG 4D $235 Panda $285 Holiday Inn
w/ FREE Dimsum Lunch and Shenzhen Tour

HKG/BANGKOK	6D	$398
HKG/SHENZHEN/BKK	7D	$419
HKG/SINGAPORE	6D	$455
HKG/SHENZHEN/SIN	7D	$477
HKG/MACAU/SHENZHEN/SIN	7D	$502
HKG/MACAU/SHENZHEN/BKK	7D	$445
HKG/MACAU/SHENZHEN/BKK/SIN	10D	$568
HKG/BANGKOK/SINGAPORE	10D	$543

BANGKOK 4D $235 via Egypt Air
$245 4D via TG 625 or LH
+3N Extn to Singapore $429
+3N Extn to Kuala Lumpur $440
SINGAPORE 4D $318 via PR 501/SQ 73 Garden Htl
2N Ext Bintan Island ADD $98
3N Ext Kuala Lumpur ADD $248
2N Ext Marco Polo Saigon Daytours ADD $278
+ $15 Johore Bahru, Malaysia
+ $45 Malacca Tour, Malaysia
+ $30 Batam Island, Indonesia
MACAU 4D $260 SAIGON Marco Polo 3D $345
SEOUL 3D $435 AUSTRALIA 4D $599
Star Cruises 50% OFF on 2nd pax (cruise only)
$507 LEO (Ex-HKG) $584 VIRGO (Ex-SIN)
BUDGET AIRFARES

	OW	RT		OW	RT		OW	RT
Hongkong	120	195	K. Lumpur	235	395	LAX/SFO	435	830
Macau	150	230	Jakarta	320	398	New York	510	900
Bangkok	160	215	Seoul	195	360	Vancouver	470	830
Singapore	190	245	Saigon	245	265	Toronto	510	957
Tokyo	210	385	Chicago	515	909	Australia	345	480
Osaka	265	407	Honolulu	440	809	Europe	395	740

TRANSNATIONAL TRAVEL & TOURS, INC.
MAKATI 753-3388 / 3005 / 1121 / 817-1566 / 1571 • 894-0974
Fax:753-5588 • 845-0679 • E-mail: tnt_anee@abacus.com.ph
Text your queries to 0917-5351581 / 791-8236
Mandaluyong: 747-1284 / 3295-96 / Fax 532-5715

Satur, Beltran wash hands of junta plot

By Gerald G. Lacuarta and Christine O. Avendaño

PARTY-LIST Representatives Satur Ocampo and Crispin Beltran yesterday belied the claim of Presidential Adviser Conrado "Dodi" Limcaoco that the two had confirmed the veracity of the junta plot allegedly being hatched by the Council on Philippine Affairs against the administration.

"Whatever Limcaoco and his group advising the President may have against Copa—which has dealt fairly with us since the anti-Estrada campaign—they should not try to use us to destroy the group," Ocampo said in a letter to the INQUIRER.

"We have had enough of Limcaoco's lying and dirty tricks in our past dealings with his group," Ocampo said.

Ocampo was reacting to the INQUIRER's headline story last Sunday, particularly the part which read: "Limcaoco said (Pastor) Saycon's group (Copa) had some explaining to do because other people such as Bayan Muna Representatives Satur Ocampo and Crispin Beltran had confirmed the junta plot."

"On this point, Limcaoco is absolutely lying. We never confirmed any junta plot by Copa—now or at any other time," Ocampo said.

In his statement, Beltran castigated Malacañang for "maliciously involving" Ocampo and himself in the alleged plot by the so-called Freedom Force to establish a civilian-military junta to govern the country.

Beltran said Limcaoco's statement was part of Malacañang's "game plan to sow disunity among forces now critical of the Macapagal administration."

"We never confirmed anything about a planned coup or junta, especially Ka Satur. What appeared in the INQUIRER last Friday was untrue. I was misquoted," Beltran said.

Beltran recalled he had told reporters in an interview on Thursday that Copa had talked to his group, but he said he was referring to an incident that happened in 2000, during the campaign to oust then President Joseph Estrada.

Militants seek ties with Erap supporters

MILITANT groups that worked to oust President Joseph Estrada from power are now calling on his loyal followers to join them in a massive rally on Labor Day.

The Bukluran ng Manggagawang Pilipino (BMP) and the Kongreso ng Pagkakaisa ng Maralitang Lungsod (KPML) formally called yesterday on the People's Movement against Poverty (PMAP) to join them at Mendiola on Wednesday and declare May 1 a "Day of the Workers and the Poor."

BMP president Victor Briz said the labor groups recognize the poor now remember May 1 not just as Labor Day but also as the anniversary of last year's poor people's siege of Malacañang.

"There is no reason for the BMP, the KPML and the PMAP not to stand together and speak with one voice against the burden of spiraling prices and the worsening standard of living of the masses," Briz said in a statement.

The invitation to unite came in the wake of speculation the BMP had aligned itself with the so-called Freedom Force that reportedly aims to unseat President Macapagal-Arroyo and establish a military-civilian junta.

But the BMP and KPML, who have denied any involvement with Freedom Force, said they saw no reason not to invite the PMAP to a joint protest action on May 1.

Blanche S. Rivera

We fix all computer problems!
Expert in VIRUS Removal
PCMed TECHNICIANS
CALL OUR HOTLINE 303-8888
☑ ON-SITE ☑ FAST ☑ EXPERIENCED ☑ GUARANTEED ☑ AFFORDABLE

SPECIAL PACKAGES PROMO
HONG KONG $288 $278 $267
BANGKOK $245 $269 VIA PAL $279 VIA PAL
BANGKOK + PATTAYA + RAYONG 4D3N- $329 5D4N- $349
SINGAPORE $330 GARDEN $355 GRAND CENTRAL $340 SUMMERVIEW
BUDGET FARES

HONGKONG	$ 226	FUKUOKA	$ 435
BANGKOK	$ 220	AUSTRALIA	$ 625
SINGAPORE	$ 265	NEW YORK	$ 910
VANCOUVER	$ 780	NAGOYA	$ 440
OSAKA	$ 380	TAIPEI	$ 315
TOKYO	$ 395	SEOUL	$ 390
LAX/ SFO	$ 840	TORONTO	$ 970

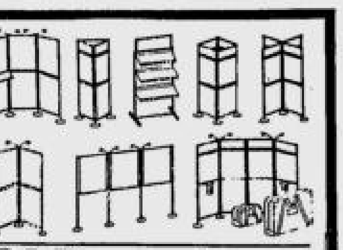
SINGAPORE
+ DAYTRIP MALAYSIA
+ DAYTRIP INDONESIA $ 378
SINGAPORE (2NITES)
KUALA LUMPUR (2 NITES) $ 433
OVERLAND TOURS
SANS TRAVEL & TOURS
TEL.#:438.8227/438.5749/438.5760/913.8500/913.8560
CELL 0917-8414401, 0917-4810243, 0917-4743362
E-MAIL:sans_trvl@pacific.net.ph URDANETA:075.5683585

Hi•Wire UNMETERED internet access
All the Internet you can use for only ₱1,000 a month
PLUS
EARN ₱10,000 for every 3 users you refer!
CALL NOW 8788588/838-9410-12
info@hiwire.net.ph www.hiwire.net.ph

ASTHMA NEBULIZER
- Handy & Portable
- Lightweight
- Made in Italy

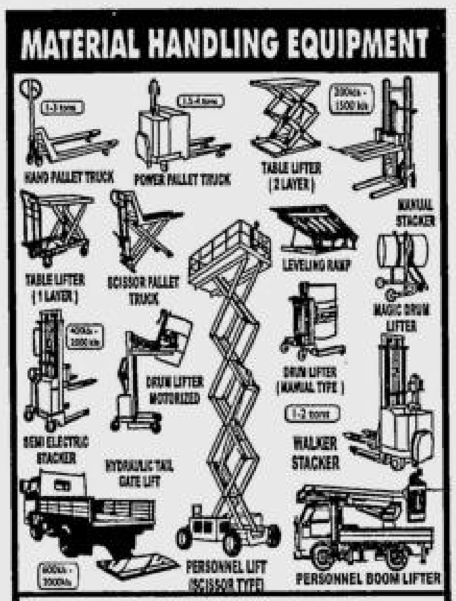
P 3,800.00 UNTIL April 30, 2002
RECORD NEBULIZER
fareastmedical.net
SM MANILA 5TH FLR 484-1471
ROBINSONS GALLERIA Basement 635-5061
FAR EAST MEDICAL EQUIPMENT
SM MEGAMALL 5th Flr., Bldg. A 635-04-36
SM FAIRVIEW Basement 418-75-40
SM NORTH EDSA Car Park Plaza 453-3326
SM SOUTHMALL Basement 800 40-93
GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN Shoppesville 721-34-87
CEBU 262 32-39

WE SELL / RENT EXHIBIT & PROMO SYSTEMS



MADE IN SWEDEN
TRANSAD ADVERTISING INC.
1015 Zobel Roxas St., Singalong, Manila
Tels: 522-7644 / 400-9987 Tel/Fax: 831-4374

MATERIAL HANDLING EQUIPMENT



EIB TECHNOLOGY PHILS., INC.
☎ 814-0902 / 812-6656

The answer to your test question!
America's #1 World Leader in Test Prep
KAPLAN
INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL STUDIES AND EDUCATION CORPORATION
USMLE CGFNS NCLEX NDB TSE TOEFL GMAT GRE SAT LSAT SPECIAL COURSES ESL MCAT
ACADEMIC MEDICAL DENTAL NURSING
•QUEZON CITY CENTER• Tel: 371-8956 & 68 • 372-1669
•MANILA CENTER• Tel: 735-7713 to 16
•MAKATI CITY CENTER• Tel: 813-8222 & 82 • 888-0875
•CEBU CITY CENTER• Tel: (032)254-1388 • 412-9977
Call us for info regarding our courses, course packages, free weekly seminars & free classes

Wanna beat the summer heat?
TRAVEL WITH US NOW!

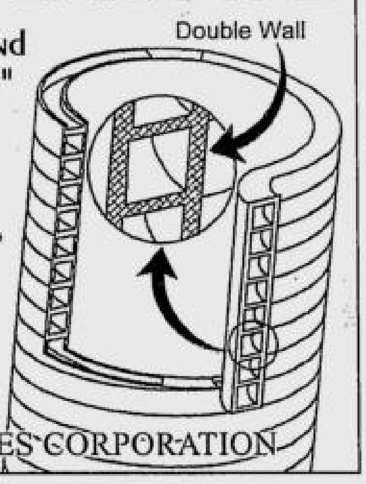
Int'l Packages (in USD)	
Hongkong	315.00
Bangkok & Pattaya	450.00
Singapore	339.00
Singapore w/ Malaysia & Indonesia Tour	445.00
Australia	599.00
Bali, Indonesia	599.00

Dom. Packages (in PHP)	
Boracay	7,043.00
Palawan	7,358.00
Cebu	6,158.00
Davao	7,043.00
Puerto Galera	2,496.00

Airfare Only (in USD)	
Europe (1 mon adv. Purchase)	950.00
SFO/ LAX	900.00
New York	1,000.00
Mel/ Syd (Australia)	650.00

Island hopping tip: Temperatures are rising and the heat can be unbearable, so make sure you bring lots of drinking water to avoid dehydration during travel.
KENSTAR Travel Corporation
There's only one name for your travel needs.
Kenstar Bldg. 511 Alonzo St. Malate, Manila, 524 1211 to 14
kenstar@pacific.net.ph/www.kenstartravel.com

DELTA DUAL PIPE
"The First of it's Kind in the Country"
- High impact resistance
- Very Economical
- Light weight & easy to install
- Strong resistance
- Better alternative to concrete pipe and spiral pipe
- Available size 36" x 20 ft.
- Soon to be available 24" and 48"



Call at: 916-1710 to 11
CENTURY PIPES CORPORATION

also for adults use
AUTOMATIC SHUT-OFF (every 10 mins.)
AC/DC BATTERY OPERATED
FOR HOME AND CAR USE
RECHARGEABLE BATTERY
kidoo
Ultrasonic Nebulizer for Kids!
effective aerosol medication therapy in 6 minutes for
ACUTE BRONCHITIS
BRONCHIAL ASTHMA
EMPHYSEMA
PULMONARY INFECTIONS
COPD
and other
RESPIRATORY DISORDERS

3 Yrs. Warranty

masks, mouthpiece and medicine cups are available
Manufactured for and Exclusively Distributed by:
medical center trading corporation
Pioneer St., Cor. Shaw Blvd., Pasig City
Tels.: 631-1715 • 631-9355 • 637-9504 • Fax (632) 631-7869
e-mail Address: medcon@info.com.ph
Available in mercury drug Stores Nationwide.
FOR INQUIRIES CALL ANY OF THESE BRANCHES NEAREST YOU

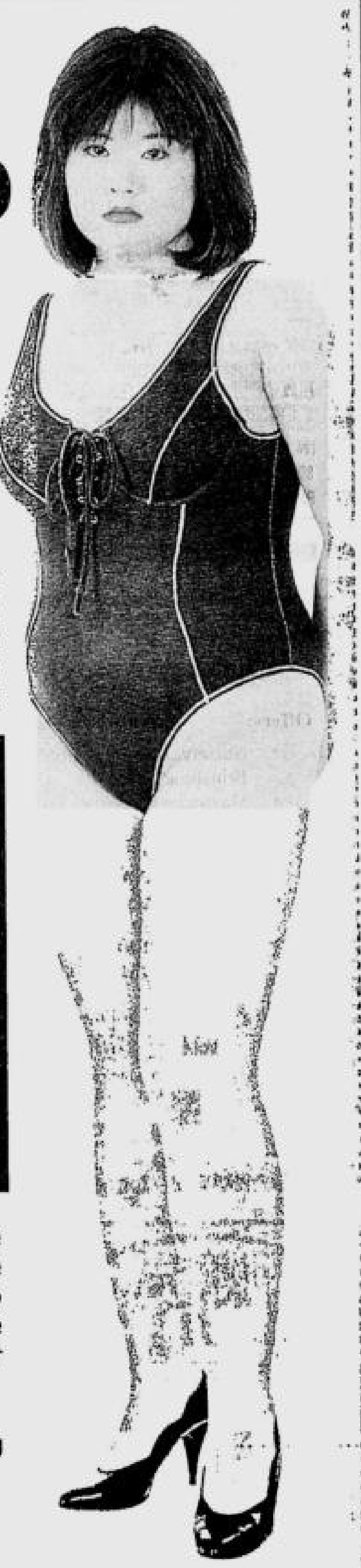
Manila	Cebu	Davao	Iloilo	Lipa	Pampanga
711-8374	(032) 254-2367	(082) 222-4404	(033) 320-1413	(043) 757-2051	(045) 961-7892

BEST QUALITY, BUDGET FRIENDLY
Water Refilling Equipment Package
Now Available for as Low as
P198,000.00
INQUIRE NOW!
• SM Megamall 5/F Bldg. A Tel. #: 633-2510 / 20
• SM City Fairview UGF Tel. # 4176622 / 4186024
• SM Southmall UGF Tel. #: 806-9393
• SM City Bacoor Tel. #: (046) 970-6168
• SM City Cebu LGF Tel. #: (032) 233-0252
• MC Homes Makati Tel. #: 893-3070 Loc 19
• MC Homes Ortigas Tel. #: 638-5201
Head Office:
WaterCare Centre 3933 L. Roces
Corner Santol St., Sampaloc, Manila
Tel. #: 716-6998 / 716-8078
Fax #: (632) 716-0903
Email: watcare@i-next.net
At Your Service!
WaterCare®
Our Name, Your Guarantee!
A Member of: IBWA

Does it take you forever to lose weight?

If it's taking too long for your body to lose extra pounds and excess fat, come to Marie-France and get quicker weight-and-inch loss results with this special offer:

Get 2 FREE FAT MOBILIZATION SYSTEM TREATMENTS upon enrollment from April 29-30, 2002



Developed in Switzerland exclusively for Marie-France, the Fat Mobilization System (FMS) is a safe and non-invasive treatment that uses scientifically developed body wraps to accelerate your body's natural process of fat elimination. Have your treatment sessions regularly and before you know it, your figure will have a slimmer, sexier look!

Discover the more effective and more efficient way to being in shape. Call Marie-France now!

Uncover Your Curves
Marie France Bodyline International®
NOW OPEN
Mon.-Fri. 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Consultations are done in private and kept confidential. All treatments are done in hygienic and private cubicles and handled professionally by trained nurses under the medical supervision of our doctors.
NEW LOCATION

MAKATI	ORTIGAS	QUEZON CITY	BINONDO	ALABANG	SHAW	CONGRESSIONAL	PAMPANGA	CEBU
816-1262 815-2052 819-3340	687-1216 687-1218 638-3028	372-6635 372-6636 410-3723 • 410-3724	242-2199 243-8230 242-3299 • 242-2399	809-9619 850-4574 842-4633 • 842-6887	534-5898 534-5877 717-0071 • 717-0072	920-8021 920-8047 920-7675	961-2981/91 860-6921/22	233-7637 233-7639 233-7641
GT Tower, Ayala Ave. cor. H. V. dela Costa St.	Robinsons Equitable Tower, ADB Ave.	Cedar Executive Bldg., Timog Ave.	City Plaza Tower, Plaza del Conde St.	Citibank-Frabelle Bldg., Alabang-Zapote Rd.	Sunshine Square Plaza	Q Plaza, Congressional Ave.	Dau's Marketing Bldg., McArthur Highway, San Fernando	Keppel Centre, Cebu City

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1330 Series of 2002
NO EXERCISE MACHINES • NO WORKOUT CLASSES • NO PILLS OR INJECTIONS • NO HUNGER PAINS • NO MEDICATIONS • NO SURGERY

Nokor defectors land in Seoul

SEOUL—Two North Korean defectors landed in South Korea yesterday, ending a risky bid for freedom that started with their entry into the United States Embassy in Beijing last week.

The two men in their early 20s arrived at Incheon International Airport, 50 km west of Seoul, early yesterday via Singapore.

"I am happy to come here," said Kim Muk-ko, 24, as he was escorted by intelligence officers to a government safe house.

The two walked into the US Embassy in Beijing on Friday, a day after a third refugee, Oh Se-hyuk, scaled the 2.15-meter perimeter of the German mission in Beijing.

Oh, 24, landed in the Philippines late Saturday on his way to resettlement in Seoul.

South Korean officials said the three defectors would undergo two weeks of medical checks and questioning before moving to a state resettlement shelter for guidance on adjusting to life in the South.

The shelter still keeps 25 other defectors who barged into the Spanish Embassy in Beijing in February and sought refuge, threatening suicide if they were sent home.

The Beijing Embassy route has so far proven successful for North Korean asylum-seekers since seven sought refuge inside a United Nations agency last June.

The Spanish Embassy affair triggered a major crackdown on North Korean refugees living in its northeastern Chinese provinces.

Human rights groups said North Korean security guards, helped by Chinese police, had tracked down and arrested hundreds of refugees around the border between the two communist allies.

Beijing officially treats refugees from North Korea as economic migrants and is obliged by treaty to deport them.

But plucking North Koreans from a Western embassy to an uncertain fate at home could prompt an international outcry against China, not least from close economic partner South Korea.

Aid groups said there are up to 300,000 North Koreans in China who have fled famine and a repressive regime in the impoverished country.

South Korea received 148 North Korean defectors in 1999, 312 in 2000 and 583 in 2001, and 240 so far this year. *AFP*

Jakarta reassured over RP action on 3 Indons

THE PHILIPPINES and Indonesia have managed to settle the irritants in their relationship arising from the arrest here of three Indonesian nationals allegedly for illegal possession of bombing equipment, Acting Press Secretary Silvestre Afable said yesterday.

Afable said Norberto Gonzales, the presidential adviser for special concerns, has been to Jakarta to confer with the Indonesian justice minister on the issue.

"He (Gonzales) was assured that the Indonesian government understands the circumstances and the actions behind the arrest of the three Indonesians," Afable said.

Gonzales is said to have explained that Philippine authorities had observed "established standards of law enforcement and police investigations."

Carlito Pablo

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Monday, April 29, 2002
5th Week of Easter

1st Reading: **Acts 14:5-18**
Gospel: **Jn 14:21-26**

Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever keeps my commandments is the one who loves me. If he loves me, he will also be loved by my Father; I too shall love him and show myself clearly to him."

Judas—not the Iscariot—asked Jesus, "Lord, how can it be that you will show yourself clearly to us and not to the world?" Jesus answered him, "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word and my Father will love him; and we will come to him and make a room in his home. But if anyone does not love me, he will not keep my words, and these words that you hear are not mine but the Father's who sent me.

I told you all this while I was still with you. From now on the Helper, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and remind you of all that I have told you."

Commentary

Love is shown more by deeds than by words. It is not sentiment but commitment, in the same way that God is committed to us. Jesus lives in people committed to walking in his way. Of love, St. John says: "If anyone enjoys the riches of this world, but closes his heart when he sees his brother or sister in need, how will the love of God remain in him? My dear children, let us love not only with words and with our lips, but in truth and in deed." (1 Jn 3:17-18) Yet how to love, to apply the words of Jesus in our daily lives, is never as simple as just giving dole-outs to alleviate the effects of poverty. Let us ask the Holy Spirit for clearer sight, wider vision, faith and commitment to follow through.

Claretian Publications Inc., 8 Mayumi St., UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City, UP P.O. Box 4, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City; Tel.: 921-3984; Fax: 921-7429; E-mail: claret@cn1.net; Websites: http://www.bible.claret.org (Claretian Publications Inc.) & http://missiona-ries.claret.org (Claretians in the Philippines)

SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

REMEDIAL LAW (CIVIL PROCEDURE)—Service of summons—Rule 14, Section 7 of the 1997 Revised Rules of Civil Procedure provides that if, for justifiable causes, personal service cannot be effected on defendant, service may be effected (a) by leaving copies of the summons at the defendant's residence with some person of suitable age and discretion residing therein, or (b) by leaving copies at defendant's office or regular place of business with some competent person in charge thereof. The word "office" or the phrase "regular place of business" refers to the office or place of business of the defendant at the time of service. The rule specifically designates the persons to whom copies of the process should be left. In Mapa v. Court of Appeals (241 SCRA 417 [1992]), substituted service of summons in a person claiming to be authorized to receive service of summons in behalf of the corporation was held to be invalid as far as jurisdiction over the person of the chairman of the board was concerned inasmuch as he was not holding office in the corporation but in his residence. Thus, it does not necessarily follow that the regular place of business of a chairman of the board of directors is the same as the address of a corporation as it is possible for him to hold office elsewhere. In the case at bar, the corporation where substituted summons was served and of which respondent was the chairman of the board, was not even a party to the present suit. As the PILTEL office is not respondent's regular place of business, it cannot therefore be said that the person who received the service of summons in behalf of respondent, was authorized to receive service of process on behalf of respondent. [Citations omitted.] [UCPB v. Ongpin, G. R. No. 146593, October 26, 2001]

DIGEST BY R. B. VERA

Supreme Court of the Philippines
Philippine Judicial Academy

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Academic Council of the Philippine Judicial Academy (PHILJA) announces the holding of the 4th Pre-Judicature Program in Cebu City, for lawyers who aspire for appointment as judges for the first-level courts, courts of general jurisdiction, Court of Tax Appeals, Sandiganbayan, or as justices of the Court of Appeals in compliance with Sec. 10 of R.A. No. 8557.

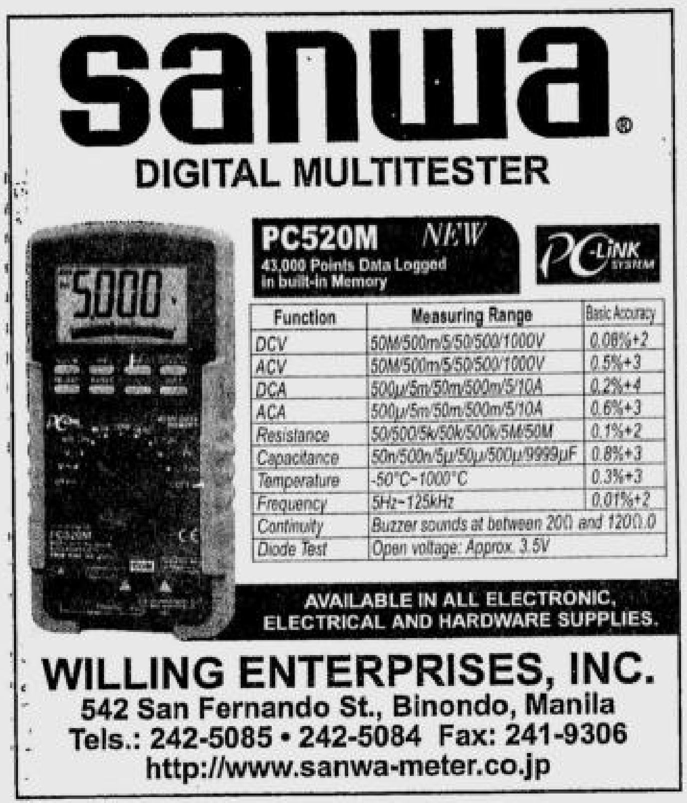
The program shall consist twenty-three (23) days, excluding Sundays and holidays, but including Saturdays, all of which must be completely attended and participation, at which, should be to the satisfaction of the Academy. The program shall run from May 20 to June 15, 2002.

The interview results shall determine eligibility of the participants and will form part of the final grade. A Written Evaluative Exercise (Comprehensive Examination) is part of the course.

Interested parties may make their reservations at PHILJA through Telefax Nos. 523-9075; 525-8939 addressed to Judge Priscila S. Agana, Executive Secretary; or at Telephone No. 522-3249, not later than May 3, 2002. Registration Forms and Personal Data Sheet can be downloaded from the PHILJA link at www.supremecourt.gov.ph.

The Academic Officials will be in Cebu City on May 9-10, 2002 to conduct the preliminary interview and screening for qualified applicants for the program, on which occasion, the required payment must also be made.

The Pre-Judicature Program is an accredited Mandatory Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) course.


sanwa®
DIGITAL MULTITESTER

PC520M NEW
43,000 Points Data Logged in built-in Memory
PC-LINK SYSTEM

Function	Measuring Range	Basic Accuracy
DCV	50M/500m/5/50/500/1000V	0.08%+2
ACV	50M/500m/5/50/500/1000V	0.5%+3
DCA	500µ/5m/50m/500m/5/10A	0.2%+4
ACA	500µ/5m/50m/500m/5/10A	0.6%+3
Resistance	50/500/5k/50k/500k/5M/50M	0.1%+2
Capacitance	50n/500n/5µ/50µ/500µ/9999µF	0.8%+3
Temperature	-50°C~1000°C	0.3%+3
Frequency	5Hz~125kHz	0.01%+2
Continuity	Buzzer sounds at between 200 and 1200.0	
Diode Test	Open voltage: Approx. 3.5V	

AVAILABLE IN ALL ELECTRONIC, ELECTRICAL AND HARDWARE SUPPLIES.

WILLING ENTERPRISES, INC.
542 San Fernando St., Binondo, Manila
Tels.: 242-5085 • 242-5084 Fax: 241-9306
http://www.sanwa-meter.co.jp

FLY HIGH WITH PATTS GRADUATES
JOIN THE HIGHEST PAID TECHNICIANS WORLDWIDE

PATTS

Your Future is in the Skies!

PATTS COLLEGE of Aeronautics is the leader in aviation education. It has continuously provided the worldwide airline and aviation industry with skilled Aeronautical Aircraft Technicians, Avionics Specialists, Aeronautical Engineers, Airline/Travel Agency Professionals and Computer Secretaries here and all over the world for 34 years.

PATTS is your future in aviation. We will train and prepare you in all airline and aviation job skills to lead you to a brighter tomorrow.

IN PATTS... WE'RE SECOND TO NONE!

Courses Offered
B.S. Aeronautical Engineering (5 years)
B.S. Air Transportation (4 years)
B.S. Aircraft Maintenance Technology (4 years)
B.S. Avionics Technology (4 years)
B.S. Airline Business Administration (4 years)
B.S. Tourism (4 years)
B.S. Airline Office Administration (4 years)
Associate in Airline Office Administration (2 years)
Communication Technician Course (2 years)
Aircraft Technician Course (2 years)
* Computer Subjects are Integrated in all courses.

NOW ON ITS 34TH YEAR OF SERVICE TO THE NATION AND THE WORLD

Enroll Now At: PATTS COLLEGE OF AERONAUTICS
Domestic Airport Road, Pasay City, Metro Manila
☎ 833-4746 / 834-1111 • FAX 833-4076
E-mail admin@patts.edu.ph
Website http://www.patts.edu.ph

Collapsible Tents
• CUSTOM SIZES AVAILABLE • HEAVY DUTY TARPAULINE • G.I. LIGHT WEIGHT
TYPE A: 11 X 17 ft P 8,500.00; 8.6 X 17 ft P7,000.00
TYPE B: 10 X 10 ft P 5,500.00; 8 X 8 ft. P4,800.00; 6 X 6 ft. P3,500.00
TYPE C: 8.6 x 17 ft P 8,300.00
TYPE D: 13 x 6.5 ft P 4,200.00
BEACH & GARDEN TENTS
PARTY TABLES & CHAIRS FOR RENT
USES: • OPEN GARAGE • BEACHES • OUTDOOR PARTIES
COLORS AVAILABLE: White • Gray • Blue • Green
•Tents can be assembled by 2 people in 15 minutes • No tools required.
RENTAL PER DAY
11 x 17 ft. - P 1,200.00
10 x 10 ft. - P 850.00
triplex AUTO DETAILING & TRADING SALES & RENTALS
28 KJ cor. K6 St. Kamias Rd. Q.C. • Tel.: 928-1486 • Telefax: 929-5803

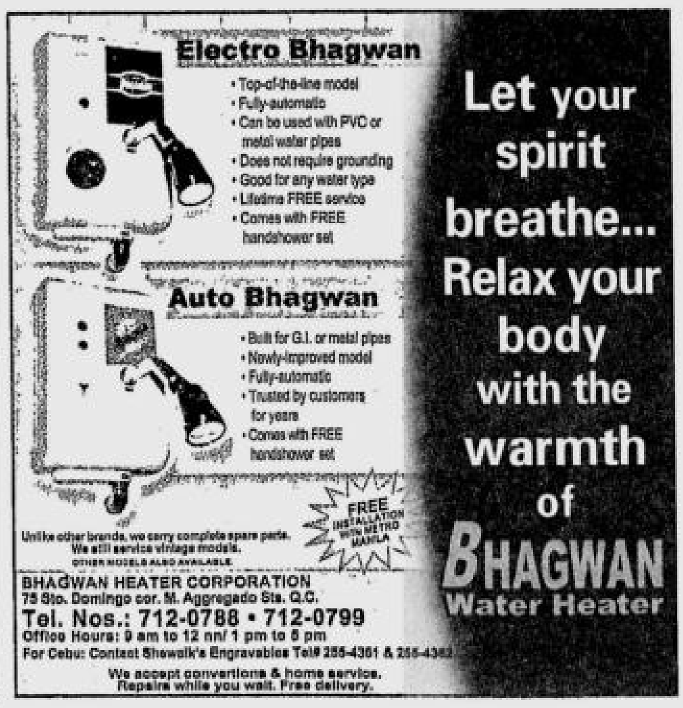
TOP QUALITY IMPORTED CARPETS NOW MADE EVEN MORE AFFORDABLE!

High Quality Broadloom & Carpet Tiles for Commercial, Residential & Hospitality use.
Sourced from the best manufacturers in Europe and the U.S.A.

ONLY AT PROJECTS UNLIMITED
Manila Tel.# 243-8088 to 95
Pasig Tel.# 632-1295 / 632-1297
Makati City Tel.# 892-1253 / 892-3140
Quezon City Tel.# 725-0412 / 726-2285

COMES IN A VARIETY OF COLORS, DESIGNS & TEXTURES.

DEALER INQUIRIES WELCOME!!!
EMAIL: sales@projectsunlimited.com.ph WEBSITE: www.projectsunlimited.com.ph


Electro Bhagwan
• Top-of-the-line model
• Fully-automatic
• Can be used with PVC or metal water pipes
• Does not require grounding
• Good for any water type
• Lifetime FREE service
• Comes with FREE handshower set

Auto Bhagwan
• Built for G.I. or metal pipes
• Newly-improved model
• Fully-automatic
• Trusted by customers for years
• Comes with FREE handshower set

FREE INSTALLATION WITHIN METRO MANILA

Unlike other brands, we carry complete spare parts. We still service vintage models.
OTHER MODELS ALSO AVAILABLE.

BHAGWAN HEATER CORPORATION
75 Sto. Domingo cor. M. Aggregado Sts. Q.C.
Tel. Nos.: 712-0788 • 712-0799
Office Hours: 9 am to 12 nn/ 1 pm to 5 pm
For Cebu: Contact Shewaik's Engravables Tel# 255-4361 & 255-4362

We accept convertions & home service. Repairs while you wait. Free delivery.

Let your spirit breathe... Relax your body with the warmth of BHAGWAN Water Heater

SUMMER FUN. COMPLETE WORKSHOPS.

this summer make it happen!

JOIN A JOHN ROBERT POWERS SUMMER WORKSHOP JUST FOR KIDS. TEENS. GRADS.

Special Age Group Workshops in Personality Development, Acting, Modeling, Etiquette, and Grooming. Morning and afternoon Sessions to fit your schedule. Enroll Now and finish before your regular school classes begin. Earn the Worldwide John Robert Powers International Certificate. MAKE THIS SUMMER THE BEST EVER! HAVE FUN AND GET THE LIFETIME BENEFITS OF A WORKSHOP AT JOHN ROBERT POWERS. Enroll early for choice schedules.

John Robert Powers
CALL NOW! 892 9511
www.johnrobertpowers.com
Casmer Building, 195 Salcedo St., Legaspi Village, Makati
Guarded Parking Nearby

START TODAY. FINISH BEFORE YOUR REGULAR CLASSES BEGIN.

Ople sees pitfalls in dual citizenship

By Rocky Nazareno

DUAL citizenship could backfire against the Philippines, said Sen. Blas Ople who warned that the country could end up with undesirable people becoming Filipinos who would only exploit certain rights and privileges of citizenship.

Ople said the dual citizenship bill, if passed into law, could work against the interests of legitimate Filipino citizens.

"What would you do when the thousands of Chinese living here are suddenly (turned into) Filipinos? They might haul off all the riches they gathered in the Philippines and suddenly bring them to China where it is now more profitable to do business," said Ople who chairs the Senate committee on foreign affairs.

Senate President Franklin Drilon has been pushing for the immediate passage of the dual citizenship bill and has called for the "coupling" of the bill with the absentee-voting bill now nearing passage.

Ople has expressed his objection to this coupling, saying the dual citizenship bill deserves a separate debate as it involves "not just the convenience of Filipinos overseas but the long-term security and welfare of the Filipino nation."

He said Drilon and the Senate majority was using the dual citizenship bill as a "political ball to capture the votes of overseas Filipinos, especially those in the United States in (the) 2004 (elections)."

"This is why this bill should be treated on its own merits on the legislative agenda," he said.

The opposition senator also castigated Malacañang for pushing for the passage of the bill, accusing President Macapagal-Arroyo of campaigning to sell out the Philippines.

"It is like selling Filipino citizenship for non-Filipinos. The people should not trust the passage of this bill. We should not let Filipinos abroad decide the fate of thjs bill," Ople said.

Sin urges labelling of condoms

By Blanche S. Rivera

"CONDOMS do not ensure protection against AIDS and STDs."

Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin wants this label attached to the packaging of condoms and other contraceptives to warn users that the products are no guarantee against reproduction or disease.

In a pamphlet titled "Subtle Attacks against the Family and Life," Sin urged the manufacturers of contraceptives, particularly condoms, to place the warning on their packages for the sake of consumers.

The prelate said there was still no concrete proof that the use of contraceptives would prevent sexually transmitted diseases or would be effective birth control.

"It may be good for chemical contraceptives to put warnings on pills that increase the incidence of breast cancer or pills that cause abortion by not allowing implantation," Sin said.

"All this matter of telling the truth shall set us free from the evil that these products bring, not only physically but spiritually," Sin added.

He reiterated the Church's position that the government's liberal policy regarding the distribution and use of contraceptives would eventually help the spread of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) and STDs.

"The condom and chastity are two opposing approaches to the AIDS problems. You earn from the condom but not from chastity," Sin said.

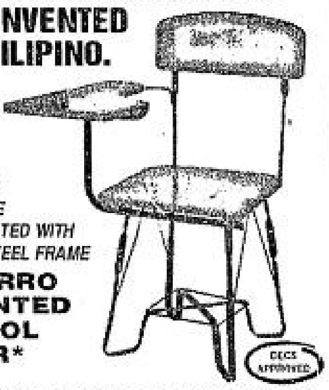
Body goes after fake land titles

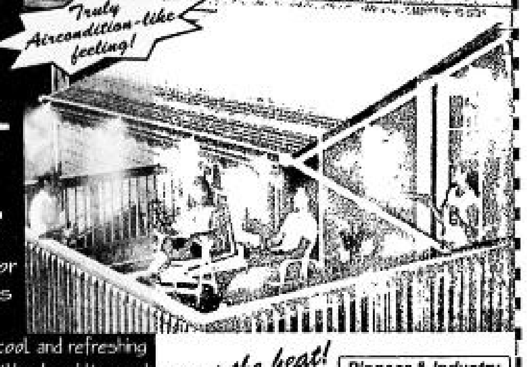
THE ENVIRONMENT department has created a special committee to go after "fakers" of land titles and clean up the system of titling alienable and disposable public lands being eyed for distribution to the homeless.

"Oplan Fake/Illegal Titles" is authorized to issue subpoenas to compel attendance in the investigation of cases of spurious titles.

It can institute, commence, or make the necessary endorsements on the filing of legal actions, Environment Secretary Heherson Alvarez said.

The committee is headed by Gregorio Cabantac, the environment undersecretary for legal, lands and international affairs. *G. Lacuarta*


THE MOST DURABLE CHAIR EVER INVENTED BY A FILIPINO.
MEMBER: FILIPINO INVENTORS SOCIETY
- UNIQUE
- ARTISTIC
- DURABLE
- ALL RIVETED WITH SOLID STEEL FRAME
NAVARRO PATENTED SCHOOL CHAIR*
DECS APPROVED
* IMITATION IS PUNISHABLE BY LAW
A.C. NAVARRO PATENTED PRODUCTS
50 TAYTAY ST., MAYPAJO, CALOOCAN CITY
Tel. Nos.: 288-0837 • Telfax No.: 288-3689


OUTDOOR COOLING SYSTEMS
Truly Aircondition-like feeling!
COOL MIST SYSTEMS INSTALLED ON PATIO
Cools Outdoor Temperatures up to 30°F
Provides a very cool and refreshing super fine mist without getting wet
Beat the heat!
Pioneer & Industry Leader since 1996
Perfect to install at outdoor:
Lanai • Veranda • Patios • Garden • Clubhouse • Restaurant • Awnings and Canopies • Event Tents • Roof Decks • Farms • Walkway • Poolside Area • Open Warehouse • Poultry • Piggery • Greenhouse • Orchidariums • Themeparks • Resorts
SALES • RENTALS • SERVICES available
FOR INQUIRIES, CALL NOW!!!
COOL MIST INTERNATIONAL
Tel. Nos.: 920-8109 • 928-3424 Fax: 920-8109
FREE ESTIMATES

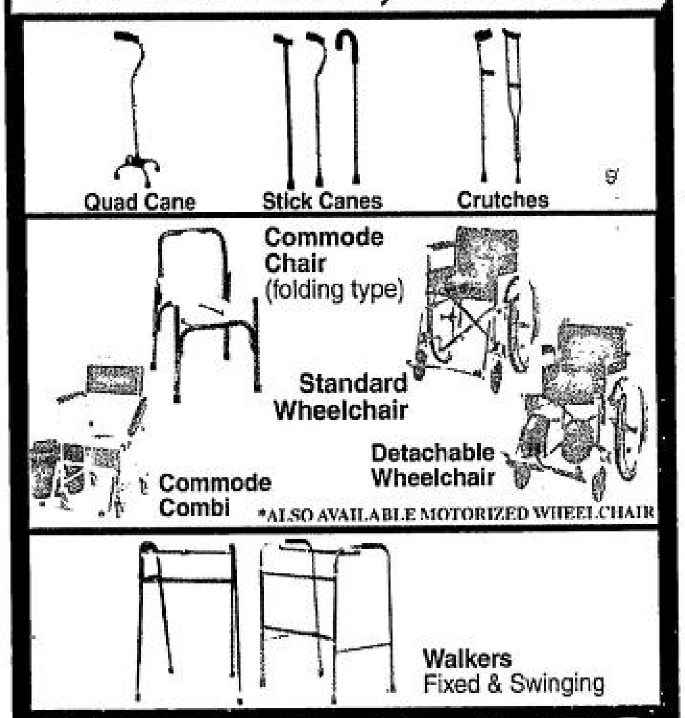
BAGUIO TOWNHOMES
"OWN A VACATION HOME IN THIS FIRST CLASS, YET AFFORDABLE SUBDIVISION WITH BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE & FAMOUS CELEBRITIES AS YOUR NEXT DOOR NEIGHBORS"
REGAL - LEXBER HOMES
DEVELOPMENT PERMIT NO. 08-99-001 LICENSE NO. 00083
EASY PAYMENT SCHEMES UP TO 4 YRS. TO PAY AT NO INTEREST FOR AS LOW AS P15,800.00 MONTHLY AMORTIZATION
FOR INQUIRIES PLS. CALL LEXBER Realty Mgt. & Mktg.
3723206, 3742584, 4108367 TO 69, 3719702 TO 04
WEBSITE: www.lexber.com EMAIL: alexis@lexber.com

Awarded Asia's No.1 in AESTHETIC TATTOO
BEFORE AFTER
"Every Piece of Craft is a Marterpiece"...Susan Ong over 25,000 personalized treatments
Personalized!
SUSAN ONG
Awarded 1992 Asia's No.1 Aesthetic Tattoo Artist
SERVICES OFFERED: AESTHETIC TATTOO (EYEBROWS, EYELINE & LIPS) • LIP AUGMENTATION • NON-SURGICAL FACELIFT • NOSE LIFT • BUST LIFT • BREAST AUGMENTATION • BUTTLIFT • SERIOUS DEEP PORE FACIAL • RECOSTRUCT DAMAGED TATTOO • VARICOSE & SPIDER VEIN TREATMENT • WHITENING TABLET • INSTANT WHITENING • WARTS REMOVAL • LASER OMNILASE TREATMENT • FRECKLE REMOVAL • EYELASHES PERMING
Prettylooks
Hi-Tech Beauty Centre for Men & Women
Unit 224-225 Bldg. #2 Central Park I, Gen Tinio St. cor. Binay St., Bangkal, Makati City
Tel. No.889-4830 to 31 • Cell No.0917-5180675
•DAVAO: 102 Illustre St., Davao City
Tels. 2245680 • 2245681
•VALLEJO U.S.A: 1920 C Springs Rd Vallejo CA 94590
Tel. (707)-5521233
susanong@globenet.com.ph www.prettylooks.com

Experience the Best of Macau (including China & Hongkong) with
EXPLORE Macau HOLIDAYS
For as low as US $ 298.00
- 4D/3N Macau-Zhuhai May 25-28
- 5D/4N Macau-Zhuhai May 14-18; May 28-June 01
- 5D/4N Hong Kong-Macau-Zhuhai May 24-28
- 6D/5N Hong Kong-Macau-Zhuhai May 15-18; May 27-June 01
- 8D/7N Macau-Guangzhou-Foshan-Nanhai-Zhuhai May 11-18; 21-28
- Pilgrimage Tour to Macau May 11-14
Call your travel agent for details!
ADAM'S EXPRESS TRAVEL 521-1651/1638, ACTION HOLIDAY TOUR CORP. 243-3067, BROADWAY TRAVEL 526-6567 CARAVAN TRAVEL 810-2661 to 65, CATHOLIC TRAVEL 524-2888, CHINA TRAVEL SERVICE 733-1274, FAR EASTERN TRAVEL 524-0301, FAR TRAVEL 751-1425 to 39, FILMAN TRAVEL 244-8328, FORTUNE TRAVEL INTL. 242-2650 GLOBALINK 652-2738, GREAT WALL INTL. TRAVEL 242-2526 HAPPY SUN TRAVEL& TOURS, INC. 536-1994/95 HONG CHEUNG TRAVEL (PHILS.) 400-0723; JOURNEYS OF FAITH (0917) 814-8127, MPL INTL. TOURS 820-8954 MULTI DESTINATIONS 526-0451, NEW SONTRA TRAVEL CO. 522-6599 ONE WORLD TRAVEL 747-8012 to 14, PACIFIC BOUND TRAVEL 525-2891/93/74, PAN ASIAWORLD HOLIDAYS, INC. 227-4505, 221-2679, 221-2712 PAN PACIFIC TRAVEL 243-6666, ROYAL TRAVELS 843-7347, SHARP TRAVEL 528-1091/94, STARS TRAVEL 525-3085, SWIRE TRAVEL (PHILS.) 817-1082, TOUR WORLD 817-4361, TRADERS TRAVEL 241-5101/06, TRADEWINGS TOURS 536-2492 to 94 TRANSNATIONAL TRAVEL 753-3388, TRAVEL BOUNTY 426-6835, TRAVEL COUNSELLORS 812-8461, TRAVEL PLUS INTL. 302-1180, TRI-C's 681-5444, VACATION CLUB HOLIDAYS 243-6584, VIAJES FILIPINAS 527-4087, WORLD MASTER TOURS 910-6380 to 84

Learn New & Exciting Recipes with-
MERRIAM & WEBSTER COOKBOOKS
- Phil. Recipes for Diabetics & Calorie-Counters P97.75
- Intro to Food Preparation 5/e P145.00
- Energy-Saving Recipes P48.00
- Heart Healthy, Phil. American Recipes P97.75
- Sarap ng Luto Lugod ng Puso P49.50
- Lutuing Masustansya, Katawan ay Sasagana P49.50
- Mahal, Ano ba ang Ulam Natin? P49.50
- Honey's What's Cooking Up? P49.50
MERRIAM & WEBSTER BOOKSTORE
"THE RIGHT BOOKSTORE"
E-mail: merriamwebster@netasia.net
MORAYTA Tel. 735-1358•735-1360 736-8589 & 90 Telefax: 735-1366
AVENIDA Tel. 733-0750 & 53 Telefax: 735-4560
MENDIOLA Tel. 735-5114•735-5106 Telefax: 736-9257
CHINATOWN Tel. 241-6603 & 04•241-6810 Telefax: 241-6811
CUBAO Tel. 912-5890•912-7042 911-0246 Telefax: 911-0131
DEL MONTE Tel. 413-8163•781-1883 Telefax: 781-1885
MAKATI Tel. 840-1090 Telefax: 840-1184
LAS PIÑAS Tel. 873-7049 Telefax: 873-9276
COASTAL Tel. 879-0059 Telefax: 879-0057
PASAY Tel. 834-6513 & 14 Telefax: 834-6515
MARIKINA Tel 997-8720 & 21
TAFT Tel. 523-3318•400-4091 Telefax: 523-4201
NOVALICHES Tel. 938-8396•935-4366 Telefax: 418-4436
PASIG (Downtown) Tel: 740-0050 Telefax: 740-0051
ANTIPOLO (Bayan) Tel. 630-3045 Telefax: 630-2025
AVAILABLE IN WHOLESALE & RETAIL

Power Up The Coolness This Summer
with PowerAire
A CONCEPCION-CARRIER SPECIALTY SHOP
together with Carrier CONDURA Kelvinator
COOL INSTALLATION PACKAGES
For PE/Split Type Aircon
Visit or call us at:
Ortigas Showroom:
Stall A27 MC Home Depot, Ortigas Ave., Meralco Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Tel Nos: 6374412 / 6374027 • Telefax No: 6374178
Office Hours: Mon - Sun 9:30 am - 8 pm
Greenhills Showroom:
224 Wilson St., Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila
Tel Nos: 744-2806 / 722-9091 to 93 • Telefax No: 744-5996
Office Hours: Mon - Sat 9 am - 6 pm
Cebu Showroom:
A.S. Fortuna St., Mandaue City, Cebu
Tel Nos: (032) 344-8943 • Telefax No: (032) 344-9538
Office Hours: Mon - Sat 8 am - 5 pm



Your Aid to Recovery and Comfort.
*ALSO AVAILABLE MOTORIZED WHEELCHAIR
MOBILITY AIDS
Available in all mercury drug Stores Nationwide
Distributed by medical center trading corporation
Pioneer St., Cor. Shaw Blvd., Pasig City Tels. 631-1715; 631-9355; 637-9504
Fax (632) 631-7869 E-mail Address: medcen@info.com.ph
Pasig City (02) 631-1715 | Manila City (02) 711-8374 | Cebu City (032) 254-2367 | Davao City (082) 222-4404 | Iloilo City (033) 320-1413 | Lipa City (043) 757-2051 | Pampanga (045) 961-7892

SIZZLING SALE SUMMER
PROMO PERIOD: APRIL 1 - 30, 2002
CASIO
Electronic Musical Instruments
It's never too late to dash up your musical creativity... This summer, rediscover yourself and find out how easy it is to tinker on those black & white keys.
Start by saving up a little, getting something more & splurging on the most durable, user-friendly & feature-packed electronic musical instruments.
FREE CASIO beach bag, keyboard stand & adaptor for every keyboard purchase
Authorized Distributor: Belrewmond Trading, Inc.
Tel. No. 7435219 / 7426726
AVAILABLE AT ALL CASIO EMI AUTHORIZED SERVICE CENTERS & ALL LEADING APPLIANCE CENTERS NATIONWIDE

'Go ahead, shoot me, but look me in the face'

STEINHAEUSER: "That's it for today, Herr Heise." AP

From page A1

words, after the 19-year-old gunman had already killed 16 people at the Johann Gutenberg school in Erfurt, Germany, on Friday.

"It was a fearless teacher who ended the massacre," said Germany's N-TV television. ***(See related story on Page 15.)***

But news of Heise's heroics will do little to quell the angry questions about how a disgruntled teenager could legally obtain the weapons and ammunition with which he calmly murdered teachers, students and a policeman.

Steinhaeuser, who had recently obtained a gun license and was a gun club marksman, shot many of his victims in the head at close range, police said.

By the time Heise confronted the masked and black clad gunman, Steinhaeuser had already killed 13 teachers, two pupils and a police officer. Ten other people were wounded in the rampage and police said the cold-blooded teen killer still had access to enough ammunition to kill hundreds more after stashing 500 rounds in a bathroom.

Heise was hailed a hero after details emerged of how the balding academic grabbed hold of the gun-toting former pupil's shirt as he stalked the halls of the school.

'Herr Heise'

"He then pulled off his mask and I said: 'Robert?'," Heise told ZDF television in a brief interview that is being constantly replayed by German media.

RAINER HEISE: Fearless teacher's tale brings measure of comfort to shocked German nation. REUTERS

"I said go ahead and shoot me, but look me in the face."

Steinhaeuser replied in formal language and referred to the teacher respectfully as "Herr Heise."

"That's it for today, Herr Heise," Heise quoted the troubled teenager as saying.

Heise, who also teaches art, said Steinhaeuser then briefly let down his guard. The teacher said he then made a gesture inviting the disgruntled former pupil to enter the art drawing room. As Steinhaeuser stepped in, Heise seized his opportunity.

"I pushed him into the room and locked the door," Heise said. Steinhaeuser shot himself in the head shortly after.

Police said late on Saturday the teacher's bravery had prevented an even higher death toll.

"A courageous teacher involved the assailant in a discussion and most probably prevented a far worse massacre," said police spokesperson Manfred Etzel in Erfurt.

Gun law debate

The political debate on Germany's gun laws intensified as Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder flew to the town of 197,000 people that lies 320 km (200 miles) south of Berlin on Saturday to lay flowers at the school.

There are 10 million legally held weapons in this nation of 82 million people. Police said Steinhaeuser had licenses for both weapons and for two more that he was not carrying.

Interior Minister Otto Schily conceded that despite its tough gun control laws, which require among other things for applicants to pass rigorous exams that can take up to nine months, there might be a need for further restrictions.

"We need to look into the question whether an applicant's character is reliable and there is a genuine need for the applicant to have a weapon," he said.

In a sign that the bloodbath may feature in the campaign for national elections this year, Schroeder's conservative rival Edmund Stoiber, said violent video games like those police said they found in Steinhaeuser's home should also be banned.

"We have to take a tougher line against those who peddle these sorts of 'killer games'," said Stoiber.

"These computer video games are like an invitation to run amok," said Konrad Freiberg, leader of Germany's police union.

But the head of the country's little-known gun lobby, known as the "Schuetzenverband," warned against over-reaction.

"It first needs to be determined how these weapons got into the hands of this assailant," Josef Ambach told German television.

Planned assault

Schroeder joined 2,000 tearful mourners at a Mass in the city's 12th-century cathedral. The chancellor left Erfurt without making any comments.

The shock that has gripped the country since the attack, which national media have already started calling "Germany's Sept. 11," was clear on Schroeder's face.

Photos of Steinhaeuser on the front pages of Saturday newspapers showed a pale-faced, short-haired, ordinary-looking young man with a hard stare.

He had failed to qualify with the rest of his class to take the rigorous school-leaving examination last year and was forced to repeat the final year, but was expelled in February for forging absentee excuse notes.

He lived with his mother, a hospital nurse, in a well-kept, four-story apartment building about 10 minutes from school.

Based on comments from former classmates, teachers and other people who knew Steinhaeuser, it appeared he had carefully planned the assault in advance. *Reuters*

DISCOVER BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES!

Uncover your potentials as an entrepreneur and be your own boss.

Let TLRC show you how.

TLRC offers you more than 200 business courses to choose from.

SCHEDULE OF COURSES FOR APRIL and MAY 2002

Homebusiness Courses

April 30	Setting up a Travel Agency
May 2-3	Resin Bonded Artwares
May 2-3	Printing Press Business *(with field trip)*
May 2-3	Therapeutic Massage (Swedish Style)
May 2-4	Coconut Mini-Oil Milling and Refining *(with field trip) (in cooperation with ITDI/DOST)*
May 4-5	Herbal Bath Soap *(in cooperation with ITDI/DOST)*
May 4-5	Decorative Candle Making *(in cooperation with ITDI/DOST)*
May 4-5	Jewelry Appraisal and Pawnshop Operation
May 7-8	Wood Framing
May 7-8	Salon Management (for Men and Women) (NEW)
May 6-10	Curtains and Cushions (on site)
May 9-10	Creative Photography (Basic)
May 9-10	Catering Business Operation
May 9-10	Setting up a Hardware and Construction Supply Store
May 10	Setting up a Travel Agency
May 11-12	Acupressure Therapy (Scientific Body Massage)
May 11-12	Aroma Candle Making *(in cooperation with ITDI/DOST)*
May 11-12	Accounting and Record Keeping for Small Businesses
May 11-12 & 14	Fresh Flower Arrangement and Flower Shop Operation and Management *(with field trip)*

Agri/Aqua Courses

May 4-5 & 7-9	Swine Production *(with field trip)*
May 4-5 & 7	Tilapia Culture *(with field trip)*
May 7-8	Goat and Sheep Raising *(with field trip)*
May 7-9	Mango Production (with Improved Flower Induction) and Post-Harvest Handling and Storage Technology *(with field trip)*
May 9-10	Honeybee Culture *(with field trip)*

Food Courses

May 2-3	Chinese Dimsum
May 2-3	Dried and Dehydrated Fruits
May 4-5	Basic Meat Processing
May 7-10	Commercial Breadmaking and Bakery Management
May 9-10	Fruit Juices and Purees
May 11-12	Specialty Cakes and Pastries
May 11-12	Carinderia: Pinoy Food Outlet

Sessions are held daily in fully air-conditioned rooms.

Course fees are inclusive of handouts, materials and field trips, when needed. Free flowing coffee, and post-training services.

Call us today at tels.: 633-5709 ; 633-6728; 633-4108 to 12 and 633-4018 to 22. Better still, visit our website at www.tlrc.gov.ph

Room 805, 8th Flr. Citystate Centre Bldg., 709 Shaw Blvd., Pasig City (near Rizal Capitol Rotunda)

All training participants get special discounts on TLRC-produced livelihood publications and video courses.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
Republic of the Philippines
TECHNOLOGY and LIVELIHOOD RESOURCE CENTER
The Power of Knowledge

25 Years OF SERVICE TO THE NATION

YOU'VE HURDLED THE BAR
AND DONE US PROUD.

CONGRATULATIONS
TO THE NEW
LYCEAN LAWYERS.

FRANCES CAROLYN M. AGUINDADAO
MONA ANN T. ALDANA
JENALYN ANTONIO-SILVERIO
LEA L. APOSTOL
KRIDEN F. BALGOMERA
MICHAEL A. BALMACEDA
CANDICE MARIE Y. BANDONG
EDMUND REY B. CALO
EMMA B. CO
MACARIO M. DE GUIA
MARY ANN B. DEL PRADO
NORMA G. DOMAOAL
CATHERINE CECILIA R. DULAY
JUNNIE T. ESPLANA
DENNIS R. GIRON
MARIZEN B. GRUTAS
EDWIN V. INFANTE
JULIETA M. ISIDRO
MARK V. LEAÑO
GIOVANNI G. MATA
RACHEL D. NEBRAO
MA. OTILIA N. NUYLES
EDWIN R. PAREDES
GARY S. RABO
JASON O. REYES
REINER C. SADSAD
MARY JANE T. TARRIELA
RICARDO F. WAGAN JR.
ALVIN G. ZAMORA

Congratulations to Class 2001 for a very high **73.07%** passing percentage.
A testimonial lunch to be tendered in honor
of the successful examinees and the Law Faculty on Tuesday, 7 May 2002,
12 noon at The Century Seafood Restaurant, G/F Century Park Hotel,
Pablo Ocampo Sr. cor. M. Adriatico, Malate, Manila.

LYCEUM OF THE PHILIPPINES
INTRAMUROS, MANILA

Muralla cor. Real Sts., Intramuros, Manila • **Tel.** (02) 527-1758 • **Fax** (02) 527-1761
• **e-mail** lyceum_manila@yahoo.com • **website** www.lyceumphil.edu.ph

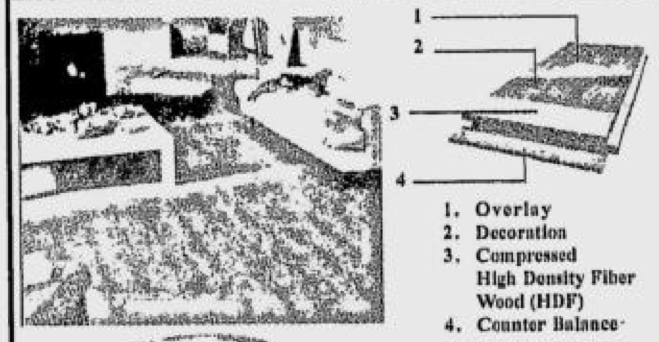
Retrouvaille weekend for hurting couples

RETROUVAILLE, a Catholic healing ministry, has scheduled another weekend for hurting couples from May 10-12, 2002 at the Saidi Formation House in Antipolo City.

Retrouvaille (French for rediscovery) helps troubled couples to pick up the pieces and rebuild relationships. Many married couples who are struggling to stay together, or who have separated but want to reconcile and sincerely desire to build a stable and lasting relationship, have turned to Retrouvaille for help.

The program consists of a live-in weekend, and six follow-up Sunday afternoon sessions during which couples are helped to reestablish communication and to gain new insights into themselves as individuals and as a couple. The weekend presentors consist of a priest and three couples who have themselves gone through conflict, disillusionment and misery in their relationships and have experienced the Retrouvaille program.

For inquiries and reservations, call Fr. Dave Clay at 523-3361 or 0918-9020511; Ike and Flor Carlos at 718-0689; Mar and Armi dela Rosa at 825-2605; Willie and Aleth Hernandez at 801-2371; and, Bien and Lex Salinas at 933-2783.



Laminated Flooring

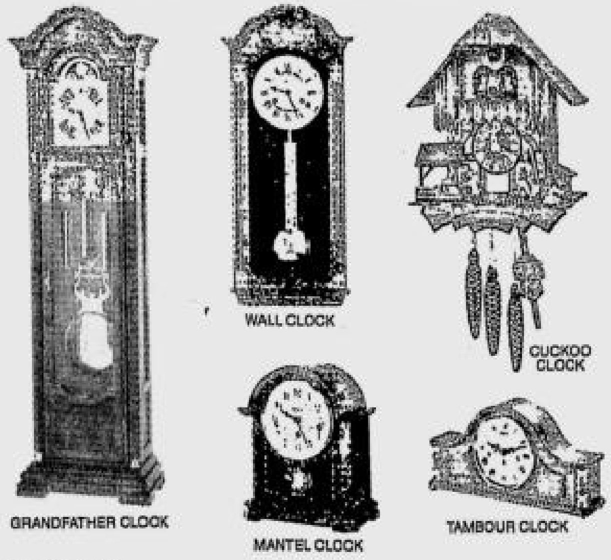
The modern flooring covering the best floors around the world

1. Overlay
2. Decoration
3. Compressed High Density Fiber Wood (HDF)
4. Counter Balance

P 565.00 per M²

SKEMA
Made in Italy

Sole Agent:
DEXTERTON INDUSTRIAL CORP.
157 Sgt. E. Rivera St. (Near Damar Village) Quezon City
Tel.: 361-6006 ; 362-1111 Fax No. 362-0524
E-mail : dexterton@dexterton.com www.dexterton.com



SENTIMENTAL LANE
GRANDFATHER CLOCK • CUCKOO CLOCK • WALL CLOCK • MANTEL CLOCK
MUSICAL BOXES • QUALITY WOODEN ARTS & CRAFTS

SHOWROOMS:
- Level 4 Shangri-la Plaza EDSA cor. Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City Tel: 633-3616
- 2/F (R-2) Level (Stall #202) C-8 Power Plant Mall, Rockwell Center Amapola cor. Estrella Sts., Mkti City Tel: 898-2536
- Level 3 Festival Super Mall Filinvest Alabang, Muntinlupa (in front of the little gym) Tel: 850-3732

Authorized Service Center:
GENTLE STAR TRADING, CO.
30 P. Banawe St., Quezon City
Tel: 731-2375 • 740-7795
E-mail: gentlestar@netasia.net

2 YEAR WARRANTY

We repair cuckoo clock, antique clock, mechanical wall clock, and grandfather clock.
All repair works with warranty.
FREE DELIVERY & INSTALLATION within Metro Manila
Visit our website at www.sentimentallane.com

RP pushing for observer status in OIC

By Carlito Pablo

THE PHILIPPINES is asking the Organization of the Islamic Conference to grant the country observer status in the international body, a standing the OIC had previously conferred on the Moro National Liberation Front.

Acting Press Secretary Silvestre Afable said Secretary Eduardo Ermita, presidential adviser on the peace process, flew to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, on Saturday upon the instruction of the President, "to try and lay the groundwork for observer status of the Philippines in the OIC.'"

"Observer status is granted in the OIC to countries that have Muslim minorities," Afable said.

Afable said Ermita was accompanied to Riyadh by Mayor Muslimin Sema of Cotabato City and Abu Ambridatik and Hapinil Hassan, vice chair and interim chair, respectively, of the MNLF executive committee.

The executive committee, headed by Farouk Hussin, governor of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, had ousted MNLF chair Nur Misuari.

It was largely through Misuari's efforts that the MNLF was granted observer status in the OIC.

Misuari is currently in jail facing rebellion charges.

Afable said Ermita and his delegation will hold talks with the foreign minister of Saudi Arabia and the secretary general of the OIC.

Afable said the group will also try to "resolve the leadership issue in the MNLF for the benefit of the OIC countries."

Afable said, "Misuari had raised before the OIC the question of his leadership of the MNLF. He still claims to be its leader."

"But we all know the government recognizes the MNLF executive council headed by Farouk Hussin, who also succeeded Misuari as ARMM governor," he said.

The Philippines has called repeatedly on the OIC for help in issues regarding its Muslim minority. The body was witness to the peace pact the MNLF, through Misuari, signed with the government in 1996.

Terrorism theme of media meet

TERRORISM and media will be the theme of this year's observance of World Press Freedom Day. President Macapagal-Arroyo and Unesco director general Koichiro Matsuura will mark the event with a ceremony at Malacañang on May 3.

On May 1-2, a conference on terrorism and media will be held at the Westin Philippine Plaza at the CCP complex in Manila.

The meet will discuss the impact of terrorism on the media around the world and feature case studies from the Philippines, Colombia, Spain, Zimbabwe and Chechnya.

The events of Sept. 11 and their effects on the practice of journalism today will also be discussed.

Journalists from around the world will take part in the conference, as well as representatives of leading international professional organizations and non-government civil rights groups including Human Rights Watch, the International Federation of Journalists, the Committee to Protect Journalists, Reporters sans Frontieres and the World Association of Newspapers.

This year's $25,000 Unesco/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize will be presented by Matsuura to Zimbabwean journalist Geoffrey Nyarota in Malacañang.

Nyarota, 50, is editor in chief of Zimbabwe's only independent newspaper, the Daily News.

Despite death threats and two bomb attacks against his paper, Nyarota has persisted in denouncing corruption and criminality among top government officials of his country. He has been arrested and detained repeatedly and several libel suits have been filed against him.

President Macapagal and Matsuura will also present a plaque honoring Daniel Pearl, the Wall Street Journal reporter who was killed in Pakistan in February, to US Deputy Chief of Mission Robert Fitts and James Hookway, WSJ bureau chief, who will receive it on behalf of Marianne Pearl, the journalist's widow.

Two photo exhibits will be held alongside the conference. One, organized by Agence France Presse at the Westin Plaza, will be about terrorism while the other, at the National Museum, will focus on press freedom.

Col. E.V. Dizon; 81

RETIRED Col. Edmundo V. Dizon Sr. passed away on April 24 after a lingering illness. He was 81. He was preceded in death by his wife Rosita de Leon-Dizon.

He is survived by children and children-in-law Medz and Dr. Andy R. Reyes, Chief Supt. Edmundo Jr. and Rowena, Carmen and Rory Rivera, and Bingbing and Rey Ginez; brother and sister-in-law Emilio and Agring; grandchildren and other relatives.

His body lies at the Camp Crame mortuary on Edsa, Quezon City. Interment will be tomorrow at the Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque after the 8 a.m. Mass.

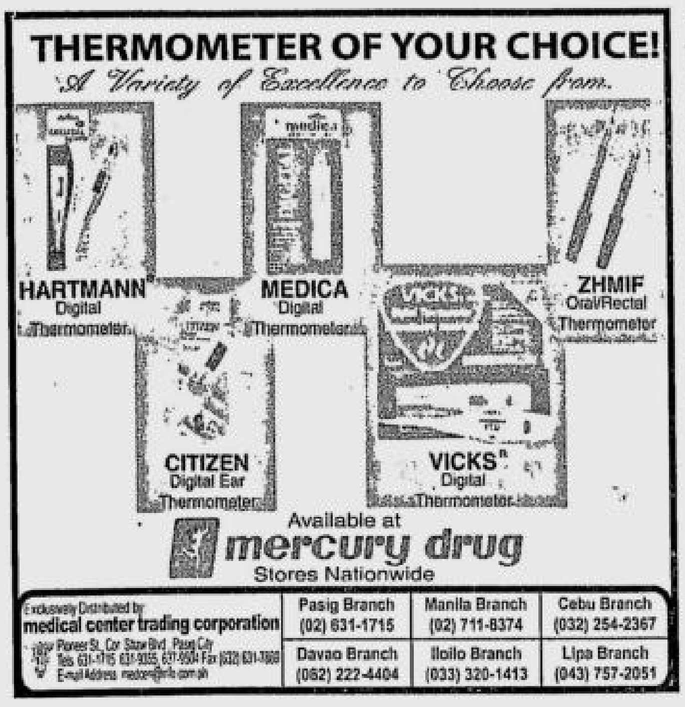
After years of hard work, it's time to treat the Graduates...

MAGIC VIDEOKE MICROPHONE

Sing with Honor.

Distributed by:
STERN BRAVO TRADING CORP.
TELS. (632) 722-6786; (632) 722-8052

BLACK MODEL
SILVER MODEL


THERMOMETER OF YOUR CHOICE!

A Variety of Excellence to Choose from.

HARTMANN® Digital Thermometer
MEDICA Digital Thermometer
ZHMIF Oral/Rectal Thermometer
CITIZEN Digital Ear Thermometer
VICKS® Digital Thermometer

Available at mercury drug Stores Nationwide

Exclusively Distributed by **medical center trading corporation**	Pasig Branch (02) 631-1715	Manila Branch (02) 711-8374	Cebu Branch (032) 254-2367
	Davao Branch (082) 222-4404	Iloilo Branch (033) 320-1413	Lipa Branch (043) 757-2051

Shape up without sweating it out!

Kankunis® Herbal Tea

A cup a day helps keep the fat away.

DIAMOND LABORATORIES, INC.
e-mail: diamond@i-manila.com.ph

Low interest rates today. Peace of mind tomorrow.

METROHOME Rate Protect

FIRST-YEAR RATE OF ONLY 10% p.a.!

MetroHome Rate Protect guarantees protection from unpredictable interest rates in the future.

- Guaranteed not to exceed 15.5% p.a. for the next four years
- Low, affordable monthly amortization
- Flexible terms of up to 20 years

Hurry! Apply for MetroHome Rate Protect now! Transfer your home loan and enjoy lower interest rates!

Application fee waived until June 30, 2002. Visit your nearest Metrobank branch or call our Home Financing Division at 840-5771 to 5772; 898-9838; 898-8929; 898-8000 loc. 2025 & 2611.

***Also available: 13% p.a. fixed for five years.**

Initially available in Metro Manila, Bulacan, Cavite, Laguna and Rizal.
Processing fee waived for Metrobank PowerClub members.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1342, Series of 2002.

You're in good hands with METROBANK The Country's No.1 Bank

Over 800 domestic and international branches, offices and subsidiaries. Head Office: Metrobank Plaza, Sen. Gil J. Puyat Ave., Makati City
Web Page: www.metrobank.com.ph; E-mail: metrobank@metrobank.com.ph

Susulong ang bayan sa wastong paggamit ng pautang.
Credit Consciousness Week, April 24-30

Eugenia D. Apostol
Founding Chairman

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Vol. 16 No. 140
ISSN
0116-2642

OPINION

e-mail: feedback@inquirer.com.ph **website:** http://www.inq7.net

The PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, INC. has its business and editorial offices at
▪ Chino Roces Ave. corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City
▪ P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City
▪ Our telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments
▪ Editorial Fax 897-4793 / 897-4794 ▪ Advertising 897-4807
▪ Circulation 527-3342 / 527-3348 / 528-0183 / 528-0186 and 528-0213 / Fax: 528-02-34.

•100% soy ink•

Publisher **Isagani Yambot**
Editor in Chief **Letty Jimenez-Magsanoc**
Managing Editor **Jose Ma. D. Nolasco**
Associate Editor **Abelardo S. Ulanday**
News Editor **Artemio T. Engracia Jr.**
Opinion Editor **Jorge V. Aruta**
Assistant News Editor **Nilo B. Paurom**
National Editor **Pergentino B. Bandayrel Jr.**
City Editor **Gerry Lirio**
Senior Deskperson **Rosario A. Garcellano**
Editorial Consultant **Amando Doronila**
Chief Photographer **Ernie U. Sarmiento**
Art & Design Director **Lynett A. Villariba**

Board Chairman **Marixi R. Prieto**
President **Alexandra Prieto-Romualdez**
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing **Renato R. Reinoso**
Senior Vice President for Corporate Services **David O. Valdes**
VP for Advertising **Felipe R. Olarte**
AVP for Circulation **Gloria P. Lardizabal**

All rights reserved. Subject to the conditions provided for by law, no article or photograph published by the Philippine Daily Inquirer may be reprinted or reproduced, in whole or in part, without its prior consent.

Protector or abuser?

EDITORIAL

SED QUIS *custodiet ipsos custodies* (But who is to guard the guards themselves)? Juvenal asked in his "Satire VI," a denunciation of the folly and sexual depravity of women. The question is asked in this passage from Juvenal: "I hear all this time the advice of my old friends: 'Put a lock and keep your wife indoors.' Yes, but who will guard the guards themselves? The wife arranges accordingly and begins with them. High or low their passions are all the same."

The case we are discussing here does not have to do with womanly passion but with allegations of a guard's lust and abuse of power. It has to do with the betrayal of the trust reposed by a woman witness in her supposed protector.

"Who will guard the guards themselves?" This is a relevant question to ask in the Philippine context where persons who are elected or appointed to positions of power often use that power not to protect the people or promote the interest of the state but to advance their own interest, and worse, to commit evil deeds.

One such person, if the allegation of his victim is to be believed, is Gerry Lintan, alias Rustom Yap, a security officer of the Witness Protection Program. (Now, why would a security officer use an alias, unless he was up to no good?) On April 9, a 29-year-old housewife accused Lintan of raping her on March 26 in an apartment where she, another witness and their families were being housed.

The housewife is a witness to the murder of a relative over a land dispute in Pangasinan in 2000. She sought government protection after two armed men kidnapped and threatened her, and then dumped her in Tarlac.

The witness complained about Lintan to the Volunteers Against Crime and Corruption. She said she could not go to the police without disclosing her identity and endangering herself and her family. She said she left the protection program on April 2 because WPP Director Leo Dacera failed to act on her complaint.

Lintan apparently planned the rape, she said, because the VCD player's volume was turned up, the lights were switched off and the doors of the apartment were locked from the inside.

Dacera tried to make light of the case and expressed the suspicion that Lintan and the victim were having an affair. But this is an alibi usually given when a woman under police custody, or, as in this case, under government protection, is sexually assaulted.

It appears that the woman witness was not the first victim of Lintan. She said she knew of many other cases where witnesses and their families suffered sexual harassment and other abuses at the hands of their supposed protectors. She said Lintan boasted that none of the witnesses who came under the program could refuse their supposed protectors' demands.

Justice Secretary Hernando Perez has suspended Lintan from the Witness Protection Program pending the results of an inquiry by the NBI. It is reported that Lintan has been reassigned to the Cordillera region. Why? To get him as far away from Manila where he should be facing an investigation?

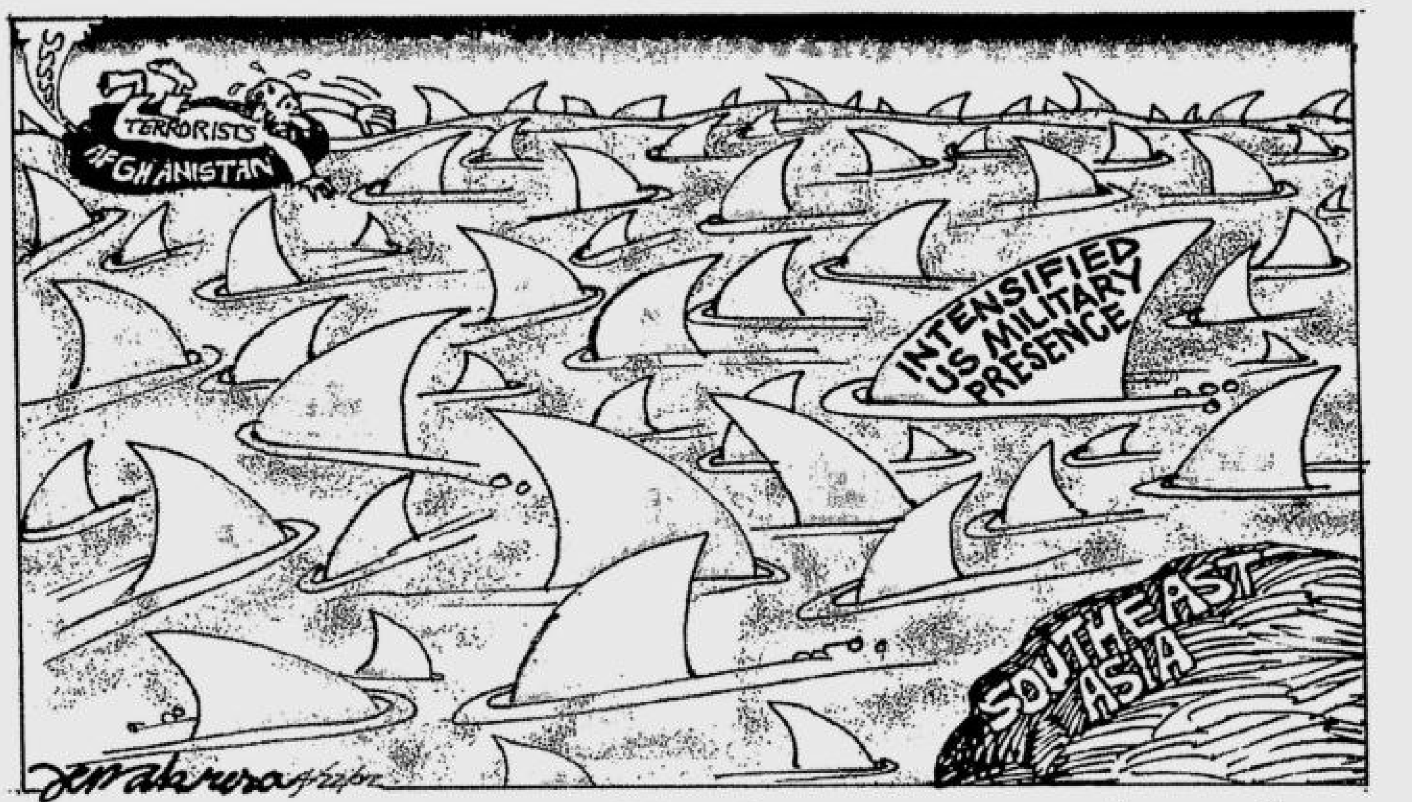
Lintan should be returned to Manila immediately, detained on a charge of rape and investigated. It is good that Perez has ruled out a lighter penalty or pardon for Lintan. If Lintan committed rape, then he should be punished to the full extent of the law.

Dacera should also be made to explain why he did not resolve the case of the woman witness immediately. He could be charged with obstruction of justice and grave misconduct.

The Department of Justice has to study thoroughly the Witness Protection Program. Has it served the purposes for which it was set up? Did it really function as a Witness Protection Program or as a Witness Exploitation Program?

The program may have to be overhauled, and people who are better qualified mentally and psychologically may have to replace its present staff. For one thing, why didn't the administrators of the program think of assigning female security guards to female witnesses?

In the Lintan case, as Dante Jimenez of the VACC said, a safehouse became a house of danger, and a witness who was supposed to have been protected by the government was sexually assaulted and harmed by one of its officers. The guilty persons have to be prosecuted and punished, the other erring officials have to be dismissed and the program has to be revamped for it to regain the acceptance and trust of witnesses who may seek government protection in the future.



Angara on Impsa: My signature was forged

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

THE CONTROVERSIAL (and grossly disadvantageous to the government) power contract with Impsa (Industrias Metallurgicas Perscarmona Sociedad Anonimo) of Argentina is getting murkier. Last April 2 former President Estrada said in an interview (among other things) that he had been offered $14 million to approve the contract to rehabilitate the Caliraya-Botocan Kalayaan (CBK) hydroelectric project in Laguna but that he disapproved it. Two days after President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo took over, Erap said, the contract was approved. (As I See It, 4/5/02)

Several days later, Justice Secretary Hernando Perez showed me a certified true copy of the contract. It had the signature of President Estrada and then Executive Secretary Edgardo Angara. (As I See It, 4/17/02)

I confronted Erap at the Veterans Memorial Medical Center with this on the eve on his birthday. "I froze that contract," Erap replied. "A government guarantee goes with that contract, but I did not sign that guarantee when Impsa asked for it. It would be interesting to see who signed that guarantee." (As I See It, 4/22/02)

Now comes Sen. Edgardo Angara with another denial. He denied ever having signed that contract. "Had there been a document shown to you with my signature approving or endorsing the approval of the Impsa-CBK contract," Angara said in a letter, "then that signature is a fraud."

"Until my last day as executive secretary, the contract had not been approved by President Estrada nor myself, nor did I sign anything relating to the approval of the same," Angara wrote.

Hmmm. This needs a handwriting expert to determine if those signatures on the document shown are genuine. And shouldn't Angara himself file a resolution in the Senate for an investigation into this mysterious deal wherein his signature and that of President Estrada could have been forged?

Here is the full text of the letter sent by Angara to me last April 17:

"I read with much interest your column of today entitled 'The queer contracts on Macapagal's lap.'

"As soon as I took my oath as executive secretary last Jan. 6, 2001, I immediately had the Impsa-CBK contract recalled because of legal questions that had been raised regarding its validity. Former Justice Secretary Artemio Tuquero even personally delivered the documents relating to the agreement to the Presidential Residence in Malacañang Palace.

"Until my last day as executive secretary, the contract had not been approved by President Estrada nor myself, nor did I sign anything relating to the approval of the same.

"When the change of administration took place on Jan. 20, 2001, the contract remained unsigned by President Estrada and myself. Had there been a document shown to you with my signature approving or endorsing the approval of the Impsa-CBK contract, then that signature is a fraud. And I denounce very strongly the efforts being undertaken by certain quarters to indicate that I had endorsed the approval of the Impsa-CBK contract.

"I hope that this matter shall be set straight through this letter."

No, this cannot be set straight by just this one letter. The matter needs a thorough investigation. Document experts should determine whether or not the signatures were forged and if so, who did it and at the instigation of whom. This is a serious crime involving forgery and falsification of public documents. The credibility of Angara, Estrada and Perez is at stake. I saw those documents. They contained what looked like Estrada's and Angara's signatures. But I am no handwriting expert. Angara has it in his power to ask the Senate and the National Bureau of Investigation to determine the authenticity of those documents. (But will the NBI dare report that the signatures in the documents furnished by its boss, the justice secretary no less, are forgeries?)

* * *

On another controversial contract for which approval Erap said he had been offered a 20 percent commission but which he disapproved, the Jancom garbage deal, President Macapagal had declared "with finality" that she is not going to sign it. Which means the contract would be thrown into the garbage heap.

But Jancom has not given up. *Basted na, humihirit pa.* It is negotiating with Chair Benjamin Abalos of the Metro Manila Development Authority to try to save the contract. But why waste time and energy with Abalos when he is the wrong man to talk to? The right body to talk to is the Solid Waste Management Commission (SWMC), created under Republic Act 9003, or the Solid Waste Management Act of 2001. The MMDA is only the implementing agency of that commission. (Commission? That's what Jancom was allegedly offering.)

Anyway, a member of the commission, Sonia S. Mendoza, an NGO representative, has written to President Macapagal questioning the Jancom-MMDA negotiation. Section 5 of RA 9003, Mendoza wrote, states that "The Commission shall oversee the implementation of solid waste management plans and prescribe policies to achieve the policies of this Act." Subsection (b) states: "Approve local solid waste management plans in accordance with its rules and regulations."

"The MMDA is not the proper agency to propose anything or enter into negotiation with Jancom," she said. "We were present in all the committee hearings and lobbying for the Clean Air Act in the 10th and 11th Congress and the Jancom contract did not mention anything about a landfill. The landfill mentioned there is a landfill for the very toxic ash that would be produced by incineration....

"Incineration and sanitary landfills do not solve the waste problem because they are garbage disposal facilities and not waste management facilities," Mendoza wrote. "People are not encouraged to reduce their garbage; rather people are encouraged to produce more garbage because of the tipping fees. The taxpayer will be tricked into paying tipping fees for the duration of the BOT contract (25 to 50 years)."

It's censorship, pure and simple

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

I DON'T like "Ama ng Masa" myself. Like I said some months ago when I first wrote about it, I am allergic to parental designations when used in conjunction with the nation. Whether they are *"ama ng masa"* or *"ina ng bayan,"* they are *kadiri* to death, to use a phrase popular in the past, where those epithets properly belong.

They are feudal concepts, throwing us back to the days of the caciques, when the lords of the manor, or their equivalent here in the sugar and rice lands, held power of life and death over their tenants, in exchange for which they bestowed, when it pleaseth them, gratuity to their wards. It is not surprising that they tend to flourish in fascistic environments, despotic leaders posing as fathers of the nation and proffering stern benignity to the citizens. Whom they discipline, when the citizens go wayward—or when they go against them—with torture and death. Paternal, or maternal, claims to the nation have no place in a democracy

Quite apart from that, "Ama ng Masa" is quite obviously propaganda for the former president. It glosses over facts, like Erap's gangster clique, his mansions and his crookedness. It erects, or resurrects, a mythical Erap, the Erap of the movies, the Erap who is one of the *mahirap,* who would rescue them from their lot. Indeed, who presumably tried to do so, but was cut down by the rich, who did not wish to lose their privileges. The storyline, quite uncannily, is not unlike Ferdinand Marcos' own. He, too, depicted through various propaganda materials his presumably mighty struggle to liberate the people from the clutches of the "oligarchs." Glossing over the fact that he was the biggest oligarch of all—or became so.

I do not like "Ama ng Masa," and neither do a lot of sensible people. But that is no argument for pulling it off the air. That is not a sensible thing to do, nor is it a democratic one. Which is what the government has done. It has ordered Net 25 and ABC 5 to "hold in abeyance" the showing of "Ama ng Masa" until after May 1. Specifically, the Videogram Regulatory Board and the MTRCB have ordered so but have tried to shield President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo from blame saying it was solely their bright idea. That is about as believable as the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas' insistence that the President had absolutely nothing to do with her picture and that of her father appearing in the about-to-be-released P200 bill. The wording of the order in any case belies it. *"Tulong kay Presidente,"* it said.

Under the best of circumstances, namely, with a government that is pure as the driven snow, the move is thoroughly misguided. "We are not engaged in censorship," says acting Press Secretary Silvestre Afable. "These are just regulatory actions." Oh, but you *are* practicing censorship. And if these are regulatory actions, they are tyrannical, quite apart from unlawful, ones. Erap's legions are right in one respect: it is prior restraint. Which is censorship.

Can the documentary possibly contribute to another round of rioting by Erap's hordes by enraging them over his supposed martyrdom? Possibly. But that expectation, or speculation, cannot be a reason to prevent its showing. The material by itself is by no means incendiary. It does not make a call for an uprising, it does not even make a call for protest. Not an overt one anyway. It merely reinterprets events according to its own point of view. You may disagree with its interpretation, just as you may disagree with the President's interpretation of life in her own TV program. But you may not take it off the air, or prevent its showing. Any more than you may prevent the showing of every movie that depicts graphic sex on the ground that it will drive audiences to rape. That is what prior restraint means. It does not protect democracy, it puts it in harm's way.

In the United States, you even have skinheads proclaiming the superiority of the Aryan race on TV and in their own publications. Indeed, you have radio commentators attacking people for their presumed racial infirmities, among them, Filipinos. But they are allowed to remain on air so long as they do not openly advocate mayhem on people of color. The principle is simple: like democracy itself, this is a horrible situation, but the alternative, which is abridging freedom of expression, is worse.

This is under the best of circumstances. But, as Sen. Joker Arroyo himself suggests, the abridging is happening in the worst of circumstances. Namely, in circumstances where the government openly and unabashedly insists on advertising Ms Macapagal's apparent virtues at every turn. This is happening at a time when the President is being proclaimed as the *"ina ng bayan,"* when her picture and that of her father are appearing in a P200 bill, when her face will soon be seen in giant billboards patronizing farmers and the urban poor. One can always argue that Ms Macapagal's appearance on Philippine currency causes public agitation and can goad people to riot. This is so because it openly invites jokes about the Philippine peso growing more and more diminutive, or in Tagalog, *paliit nang paliit.*

If anything ought to be stopped, it is those things. At least, "Ama ng Masa" is paid for by private funds—or so theoretically, those private funds being originally public funds. "Ina ng Bayan," Ms Macapagal's picture in the P200 bill, and the billboards are paid for by taxpayers' money. That is cooking us in our own fat. I am compelled to part with my hard-earned money just so Ms Macapagal can grin down at me from a billboard?

We stop those things and it won't be censorship. At the very least, it will be sanity. At the very most it will be good taste.

* * *

Comments to dequiros@vasia.com

We have to believe in ourselves—Roxas

POLITICAL TIDBITS

Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

AT THE 7TH Investors' Award Night sponsored last Thursday evening by the Philippine Export Zone Authority (Peza), led by its director general, Lilia B. de Lima, I had a good chat with the guest of honor, Trade Secretary Mar Roxas.

In his typical fashion, Roxas soon overwhelmed me with facts and figures about the foreign investments here. Seated with him were the GMs of the largest foreign companies operating in the various export zones around the country, who had good words to say about their businesses and how their Filipino work force was doing well.

For instance, Roxas asked Francis Ferrer, who represents the business sector in the Peza board, to tell me "a few things," and the latter narrated how Toshiba officials asked him for three people who could undergo higher design-training in Japan for about two and a half years; Ferrer gave them five names to interview, and at the end of the interview the Japanese were very impressed and said perhaps the training could be cut down to one and a half years only. Later, Ferrer was able to visit the trainees in Japan and he was told by their bosses that their training would be cut down to six months. On the other hand, in a recent competition that Philips International held among its many branches spread around the world, the top two categories were won by the Philippine company. "That's how good we Filipinos are," said Ferrer.

* * *

I kidded Roxas that if any Filipino needed to feel good about his country and people, all he had to do was sit down with him, but the problem is that, as Roxas noted, all too often the bad news crowds out the good news in the media. I asked Roxas to spare me from indigestion that night and instead, to write down all that he was telling me, so that I could share them with my readers. We all could certainly use some good news. Roxas then turned wistful, as earlier the media were full of stories about Copa's alleged junta plans and the bombings in General Santos City, which do not help project a picture of stability here. "All these foreign investors acknowledge that we Filipinos are good workers," says Roxas, "*Tayo lang ang walang bilib sa sarili natin.*" He added that "if only we could have even just two years of continued uninterrupted peace, think of what we could do by way of generating jobs for our people."

* * *

I agree. At this point, when the world economy remains in the doldrums, it is far more patriotic to pull together as a people than to indulge in divisive political games like what Copa wants to do. Incidentally, I find it ridiculous that Boy Saycon and Peping Cojuangco should blame presidential adviser Conrado Limcaoco for exposing their game in the media. Anyone in Limcaoco's shoes would have done what he did, which was, to tell the President and the world about it. Definitely, he did not invent the Copa plot, judging from Jaime Cardinal Sin's letter.

At this point, Copa's "collective leadership" game is now ready for the burial it deserves, but before we bury it, presidential adviser Cesar Sarino asked to be allowed to stress that linking Fidel Ramos to this latest Copa game is the height of ridiculousness (I agree). Sarino also pointed out that while he indeed attended the meeting with Sin upon the invitation of Teddy Benigno, he informed President Macapagal about it ahead and afterwards met with Executive Secretary Alberto Romulo to discuss points taken; he also arranged a meeting between Romulo and Benigno.

* * *

I must say that I have a far healthier admiration for those who quietly participate in nation-building, stone by stone, as it were, than for the perpetual malcontents in our midst with their exaggerated sense of self-importance. Some weeks ago, Cecile Alvarez and I featured in our Sunday evening program on dzRH, which seeks to highlight various efforts at poverty alleviation, the major undertaking of the Negros Women for Tomorrow Foundation Inc. (NWTF), called "Project Dungganon." The project's executive director, Dr. Cecile del Castillo, explained how they lend money to nearly 35,000 women from the "hard-core poor families" across Negros island and Northern Cebu, to enable them to either start small businesses or sustain or expand existing ones; the objective is to help lick the problem of poverty with supplemental incomes. The program, whose loans begin at P5,000 payable in three months without collateral at 32 percent interest rate and can go as much as P12,000 payable from six months to one year, is patterned after the much-copied brainchild of Dr. Muhammad Yunus of Bangladesh.

* * *

In my recent trip to Bacolod City to accompany my husband to the 100th year celebration of his high school, the Negros Occidental High School, I asked his classmate, Wharton-trained economics professor Wilhelmina Gonzalez, who happens to chair the NWTF, to take us to a Dungganon center, so we could see a specific micro-lending program at work. Last Monday morning, Wilhelmina and project deputy director Cora Henares drove us to Bago City, some 30 minutes from Bacolod, where about two dozen women borrowers were holding their regular weekly meeting in the nipa hut they built with their personal contributions and serves as their center. Their weekly loan payments were contained in woven reed boxes which were submitted to a project officer for recording in a ledger. The borrowers are organized in cells of five members each, with several cells forming a center, and in turn, many centers make up a branch; there are 18 such branches all over Negros and northern Cebu. For instance, the Bago-Pulupandan branch has about 2,600 borrowers turning around nearly P10 million in loans. Each cell member exerts pressure on the other members to pay on time, as otherwise the whole cell's credit standing would be jeopardized.

(To be continued)

Chilling patterns

KRIS-CROSSING MINDANAO

Carlos Isagani T. Zarate

READER Charo Simons wrote to say that the correct Spanish translation of "season of death" is not "*tiempo muerte*," which I used to describe the wave of senseless killings by self-styled vigilantes in the Davao area among suspected petty criminals and drug pushers and users, mostly minors (PDI 11/12/01) She said it should be "*tiempo de muerte.*" Point well taken.

* * *

After a brief hiatus, the summary killings have resumed. Early this year, the Davao media reported of at least a dozen minors "salvaged" by suspected vigilantes after the local government renewed its "war" against drug-related crimes, gangsterism and petty criminals. The killings have also expanded to several localities in Davao del Sur, with victims marked by missing ears, grisly "signatures" of their vigilante perpetrators. Vigilante justice also went unabated in other areas in Mindanao like Agusan, Cagayan and Surigao, apparently, with the tacit approval of local officials, despite their denials.

Perhaps because most of those executed by vigilantes were minors, Davao City has lost the coveted award of being the country's Most Child-Friendly City, a distinction that it held for two consecutive years. Had it won this year, the city could have been elevated to the Hall of Fame. This year's award went instead to Olongapo City with Davao City not even a runner-up.

* * *

The death of Benjaline "Beng" Hernandez, 22, along with three other villagers last April 5 in Arakan Valley, North Cotabato, has again illustrated the dangers and sacrifices faced by human rights workers under our so-called restored democracy. According to the human rights alliance Karapatan, Hernandez and her companions were "massacred" while eating lunch, by Cafgu elements under the supervision of the Army's 12th Special Forces/7th Airborne Battalion. At the time of her death, Hernandez was the deputy secretary general of Karapatan-Southern Mindanao and the vice president for Mindanao of the College Editors' Guild of the Philippines. Karapatan said Hernandez was in Arakan to make a follow-up investigation on last year's killings of lumad farmers, which were also allegedly perpetrated by members of the Cafgu unit.

It was only after the incident came out in the media that the military declared it was a legitimate encounter between the Cafgu and the New People's Army, including Hernandez and her companions. The belated military claim of a legitimate encounter is surprising, if not suspect. But the initial post-mortem report showing that the bullet wounds of the victims were fired at close range clearly belies this claim.

In an apparent move to recover from this faux pas, the Army held a press conference at the posh Insular Hotel in Davao City, courtesy of North Cotabato Gov. Emmanuel Piñol. Piñol, who does not hide his bias for a military solution to the NPA and Moro rebellions in Mindanao, claimed that an investigation showed the victims were indeed members of the NPA, as evidenced by alleged arms and subversive documents recovered, including a diary supposedly owned by Hernandez. How the governor and the military arrived at such conclusion, not being handwriting experts, is a puzzle and until now the diary has still to be presented to the family of Hernandez for confirmation.

Hardly has the controversy over the death of Hernandez and her companions settled when the Cafgu and the Army again figured in another accusation of "massacre" of civilians in the hinterland district of Tamugan, Marilog, Davao City. On April 15, the military reported that elements of the Army's 73rd IB and Cafgu, some of whom were rebel returnees, killed six NPA rebels in an encounter during a supposed wedding of a rebel commander.

The aftermath of these two incidents is worrisome. Local leaders of Karapatan, Bayan Muna and Bayan were reported to have been placed under surveillance by suspicious persons. The Army also tagged leaders of these organizations as "communist" and charged them of "aiding the enemies of the state." Police Regional Director Eduardo Matillano also said he wants Congress to pass an Internal Security Act, similar to those of Malaysia and Indonesia, to effectively deal with "known enemies of the state." These chilling patterns raise concerns over what seem to be a recycling of old tactics designed to quell legitimate dissent and gloss over violations committed by state forces.

* * *

The cold-blooded assassination of Regional Trial Court Judge Eugenio Valles in Nabunturan, Compostela Valley province last Thursday may yet signal renewed bloody confrontations in the gold-rich area of Mt. Diwata, popularly known as Mt. Diwalwal. Valles, a mild-mannered person and an active member of the Free Legal Assistance Group before he was appointed judge, presided over a case between opposing claimants of Mt. Diwata. He was the first judge to have been murdered in the Davao region. This early, opposing camps in the area are already trading charges and counter-charges.

This clear assault on the independence of the judiciary must be investigated and resolved quickly by the government.

* * *

Comments at karlos_z23@hotmail.com or kar_laws@yahoo.com

Tessie O is anti-GMO

COMMENTARY

Dean Jorge Bocobo

SEN. Tessie Aquino-Oreta, may yet emerge as this year's pin-up poster girl of the anti-GMO (Genetically Modified Organisms) movement in the Philippines. The Dancing Queen is about to transmogrify into the Biodiversity Queen. The recent news of her support for anti-GMO legislation in the Senate was greeted with elation by those well-financed anti-GMO propagandists who have, I must admit, successfully demonized genetically modified foods and crops and poisoned Filipino minds against them.

But behold, biotechnology advocates were paradoxically also jubilant over Oreta's self-publicized jumping on to the anti-GMO bandwagon. Ninoy Aquino's morally modified sister is showing how the entry of a senator into a hotly debated issue can nevertheless elicit the same joyful reaction from both sides of the divide. So congratulations, Senator, you have created a rare consensus between those opposed to GMOs on ideological grounds and those who are not. They both agree you should strongly support the anti-GMO side, the louder, the better and with a jig or two, if possible.

Yes, it is literally *ad hominem*—I freely admit it—but Oreta is really all the argument needed against the anti-GMO position. I won't need as much precious space to explain the scientific and social intricacies of the issue anymore. She will speak much more eloquently than any of my clumsy argumentation. If Tessie O is anti-GMO, then I rest my case.

At last week's conference of the Cordillera Catholic Educators Association of the Philippines (CEAP), I spoke out on this issue in a talk on science education in Philippine schools, which has suffered massive cuts in teaching time and structural support under the controversial new Basic Education Curriculum (BEC) of the Department of Education for public elementary and high schools. I was making a pitch to the private school sector for increased emphasis on biology, agricultural biotechnology and the related life sciences of medicine and genetic engineering. After showing several hundred teachers and administrators our cellar-dweller status in international mathematics and science testing of high school students, I was heartened to hear that most private schools are increasing, not decreasing, their science teaching and have delayed implementation of the BEC. (For those who have asked for the main technical reports of the Third International Mathematics and Science Study [TIMSS] and their ominous portents for the Philippines, get them at *http://timss.bc.edu/timss1999.html)*

When the topic of GMOs came up, almost all the missionary sisters that I met, those little-noticed toilers in the mountains whose hard-scrabble life is the education of the next generation, told me, somewhat sheepishly, that they were anti-GMO. One of them even showed me some of the *komiks* propaganda being distributed by anti-GMO forces, which use characters like Gene the Genome and the evil Professor Bio who steals "native biodiversity" for foreign multinationals. Many of them still believe the outright lie, actively peddled by anti-GMO forces, that the *ylang-ylang* genome has been stolen and patented by foreign bio-pirates.

Anti-GMO forces have cynically and cleverly exploited the ethical fears of religious nuns and clergy for anything associated with the word "genetic." Maybe that is why most newspaper reports of anti-GMO statements are often signed by a local bishop, priest or nun, in the name of a "coalition" concerned with food safety. Yet when you examine the texts, the jargon in them is suspiciously technical, as if supplied by a hidden hand, and not plausibly created by the signatory.

Speaking of which, the game in which the Philippines is but a pawn, is that of a trans-Atlantic food fight between big German, Swiss, Dutch and other European manufacturers of fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides on one hand and the North American conglomerates whose GMOs threaten those markets and compete for billions of dollars in profits worldwide on the other. Perhaps the Europeans, like the Americans, have discovered that having one senator in hand is just as good as funding a dozen unpredictable NGOs posing as environmentalist activists in the bush.

What Oreta has actually done is to open up a bidding war among the European and American lobbyists for senatorial support or opposition to their respective interests. It's a lucrative bonanza having little to do with biology or food safety, and everything to do with the extortionist vocation of the legislature.

I say, a genetically fortified pox on all their houses! In pursuing their narrow political agendas, the strange bedfellows, Oreta and the anti-GMO crowd, are only hurting Filipino farmers and promoting anti-science attitudes among the young. How many millions of tons of corn have been destroyed by the corn borer, and the lives of the farmers buried in poverty, since the opposition began to such a wonderful and beneficial invention as the borer-resistant Bt corn? They say they are for food safety, yet they oppose the very tests for food safety that proponents want to conduct, tests that are merely local repeats of thousands already conducted in other parts of the world. The tests can only prove that the laws of biology and genetics are the same in Tagudin, Ilocos Sur, as they are in Topeka, Kansas. However, this isn't about science or religion, but about politics.

* * *

Comments to deanjbocobo@yahoo.com

Bane of 'unnamed sources' news

READERS' ADVOCATE

Raul J. Palabrica

LAST week, I read three major news reports in the INQUIRER whose contents came from unnamed sources. The common denominator of the articles was politics—the favorite pastime of Filipinos.

The most significant news was about the alleged organization of a "freedom force" by personalities identified with a shadowy group that styles itself as Council of Philippine Affairs.

The news is based on information provided by "a source who spoke on condition of anonymity." The INQUIRER was later forced to disclose his identity when some of the people named in the news questioned its accuracy.

This incident reminded me of the letters I have received earlier expressing concern about the frequent use by some INQUIRER reporters (including those of other newspapers) of "unnamed sources" as the source of their stories.

Aside from the phrases mentioned above, the other words used to hide the identity of news informants are "sources familiar with the problem," "somebody privy to the discussion who asked not to be identified" and "an insider who requested anonymity."

An investment banker considers this kind of news as a "glamorized white paper." For the uninitiated, "a white paper" is an unsigned letter or manifesto that criticizes other people for some mistake or flaw in character. This document usually comes out when somebody loses in a project bidding or a vacant government office is soon to be filled up by the appointing power.

A high school teacher thinks "a newspaper that indulges in this kind of reporting is no different from tabloids that use fictitious names to peddle cheap gossip to entice the readers into buying them."

A former Cabinet official who was the subject of several "unnamed sources" reports during his stint in the government said "he refrains from commenting on news of this nature because it is like sparring with somebody you cannot see or touch. You can't win at all."

Justification

Admittedly, there are instances when a reporter is justified in hiding the identity of his source so he can come up with a good story. If the disclosure of the informant's identity may endanger his safety or that of the members of his family, or result in the loss of his job, and the news genuinely involves the public interest, the reporter is morally obliged to keep secret the name of his source.

The key element in this situation is public interest. The information given will truly redound to the benefit of the public and not to some politician or businessman.

When highly motivated employees of the Department of Budget and Management or Commission on Audit discreetly inform reporters of anomalous public works contracts, keeping the identity of the whistle blowers under wraps is a must for obvious reasons.

It is not responsible journalism if the "unnamed sources" news is allowed to be used by people with vested interests to put their political rivals or business competitors in a bad light without exposing themselves to accountability for their action.

It is not uncommon to read reports of alleged criminal acts committed—for example, illegal gambling or smuggling—by a prominent community leader on the say-so of somebody who refused to be identified for supposedly security reasons.

The personal agenda of the publicity-shy informant is camouflaged by motherhood statements that the "exposé" is aimed at serving the public interest, whatever that may be.

Noticeably, news of this nature often come out during days when news is slow or nothing important is coming out of the traditional sources of news.

Disclosure

I think a reporter who receives newsworthy information from somebody who does not want to be identified should do either of two things—persuade the informant to come out in the open or look for other sources that can validate the information given.

It's true that convincing a source to reveal his identity is easier said than done if it will mean his life or job. Considering the inadequacies of the Witness Protection Program, aggravated by the incompetence of its personnel, only the bravest of informants will go public with their disclosures.

However, in those instances when no similar danger exists, like the case of Conrado Limcaoco, presidential adviser on ecclesiastical and media affairs, who leaked the alleged "freedom force" maneuverings to the INQUIRER, or the subject of the news is in the realm of politics, like the horse-trading that our politicians are known for, persuading the bashful source to reveal his identity should be the first order of business for the reporter.

If the source still insists on maintaining his anonymity, it becomes incumbent on the reporter to independently check the truth of the information confidentially provided to him.

This is where the reporter's resourcefulness and imaginative thinking can come into play. Using the tips given him by his informant as guide, he can retrace the paper trail or find the leads that will show him where some of the skeletons are hidden.

For example, an informant says a contract entered into by a government official is bloated or over-priced but he does not have a copy of the contract that will prove it. All he has are the preliminary studies and recommendations preceding the signing of the contract.

No copy of the contract can be secured. Either the official kept all the copies or the in-house lawyer who notarized them suddenly went on extended vacation to some undisclosed country.

End of the road? Of course, not. Chances are copies of the contract have been submitted to the Commission on Audit, Department of Budget and Management, Department of Justice or Office of the Government Corporate Counsel.

If all these offices yield negative results, the reporter can check with the clerk of court of the place where the government office is based. Under existing regulations, lawyers who notarize documents are obliged to submit copies of the notarized documents to the clerk of court of the place where he performs that work.

With the independent proof on hand, the reporter can dispense with any reference to his unnamed source and write a story that can stand the test of accuracy or truth. And the readers will feel they are getting value for the money they spent to buy the newspaper.

* * *

The readers' advocate may be reached at the following address. "The Readers' Advocate" c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces Avenue corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City. Or through fax nos. 897-4793 to 94, or readersadvocate@inquirer.com.ph.

Rationalizing national holidays

LETTERS

THE RECENT controversy over when Labor Day should be celebrated gives us the opportunity to rationalize the dates of Philippine national holidays.

Take Labor Day. It is celebrated on May 1 by the majority of European countries but May 1 is not celebrated as a holiday in Denmark, Ireland, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

China, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Singapore and the Philippines observe May 1 as Labor Day but in India, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea and Taiwan, May 1 is not indicated as a holiday.

The United States has no fixed date for Labor Day. Americans observe Labor Day on the first Monday of September as a national holiday.

This brings us to the point. Contrary to popular belief, the Philippines does not have many national holidays. We have 10. The United States also has 10. Other countries have more than 10. The problem is that whenever a national holiday occurs on a Tuesday or a Thursday, the government has the tendency to declare the day sandwiched between the weekend and the holiday a special non-working holiday. Such practice has unnecessarily increased the number of non-working holidays.

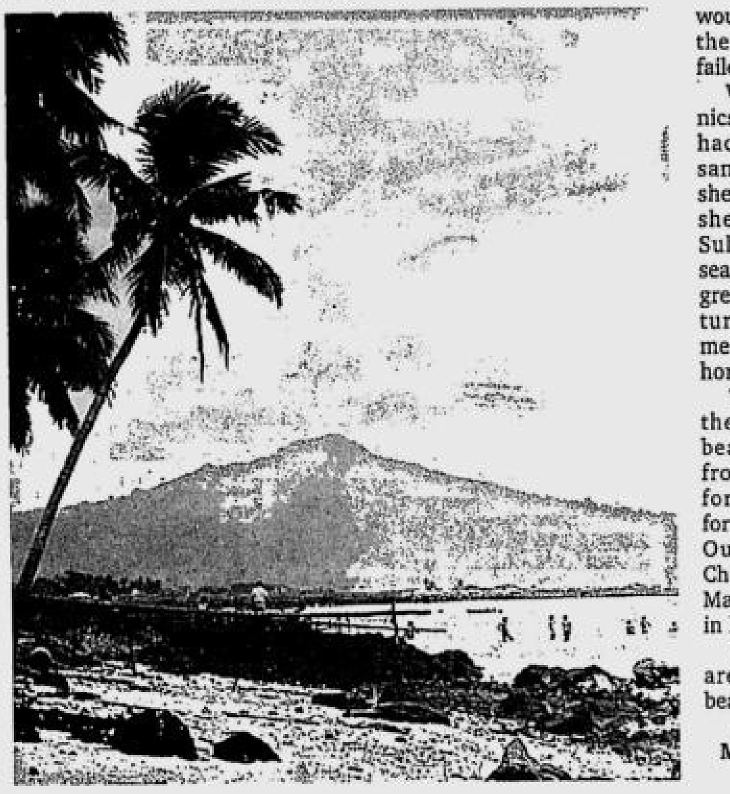
The United States has only three national holidays with a fixed date, namely, New Year, Jan. 1; Independence Day, July 4; and Christmas Day, Dec. 25. The seven others have movable dates as follows: Martin Luther King's Day is on the third Monday of January; President's Day (Washington's and Lincoln's birthday), the third Monday of February; Memorial Day, fourth Monday of May; Labor Day, first Monday of September; Columbus Day, second Monday of October; Veterans' Day, second Monday of November; and Thanksgiving Day, the fourth Thursday of November. Thus, Americans have long weekends when there is a national holiday.

Thus, there is a need to rationalize and institutionalize the celebration of national holidays, to wit:

The Philippines can limit to four the holidays with a fixed date, namely, New Year's Day, Jan. 1; Independence Day, June 12; All Saints' Day, Nov. 1; and Christmas Day, Dec. 25. Maundy Thursday and Good Friday have always been movable dates. The remaining four holidays can also have movable dates, namely, Bataan Day, Labor Day, National Heroes Day and Rizal Day. They can be observed on the Monday nearest the original date of the holiday.

**—JOKER P. ARROYO,
senator**

Memories of Jolo's beauty and abundance



I CAME across "Memories of Jolo" in the Sunday Inquirer Magazine last March 19, 2002 and nostalgia enveloped me. I would like to share my bit of reminiscence with you.

The tiny town of Jolo before World War II was insignificant, sleepy, on rare occasions frighteningly on edge, but on the whole peaceful as only we, the residents, were aware of. The weather was always sunny and pleasant. Of course, rain fell but not in torrents. The sun shone but not of the intensity that parched earth and man. There were no floods to sway houses on stilts nor droughts to wilt away agricultural produce. In fact, the market displayed such abundance of nature's delights: *durian, marang, lanzones, mangosteen, wani* and other strange-smelling fruits. They were abundant, fresh and cheap buys.

Bud Tumantangis, meaning Crying Mountain, rises high, majestic, vegetated, predictable. In the early morning we watched it. When it was mistily veiled, there would be rain. When it was green, the sun would shine. It never failed us.

We had beaches for our picnics. Taglibi beach, for instance, had miles of sparkling white sand hiding treasures of seashells from the tiniest colorful shells to clams, the home of Sulu's prized pearls. The calm sea looked like an endless Nile-green carpet along the shoreline turning emerald farther and melting into indigo toward the horizon.

Taglibi made history when the Americans landed on its beach to liberate us civilians from the retreating Japanese force who, we were later informed, were to herd us into the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church for a planned massacre. Mama Mary did not let it happen in her own sanctuary.

Thanks for the memories. Mine are those of abundance and beauty.

**—ROSARIO R. LIBERATO, 21
Molave St., M. Romeo Village,
Sta. Lucia, Pasig City**

Expand LRT, MRT northwards also

IT was reported in the newspapers that the line of the Light Rail Transit (LRT) which, at present runs from Monumento in Caloocan City to Baclaran in Parañaque City, will be extended to Bacoor, Cavite and later on, further extended up to Imus and Dasmariñas, also in Cavite. The project, which would cost $865 million, would be a joint venture between the Light Rail Transit Authority and SNC-Lavalin International Inc., a Canadian firm. The project is part of the government's response to the growing transport needs of the people in Metro Manila and its environs who demand a faster and more convenient mode of transport.

While I feel happy reading the news item, I, however, ask myself why it seems that the government's infrastructure projects are concentrated in the southern portion of Metro Manila only. The government seems to have forgotten the northern portion of Metro Manila like Valenzuela City (which incidentally is in Metro Manila and which therefore should receive the same attention and treatment as Quezon City, Pasig City, Makati City, etc.) and the province of Bulacan.

Just take the case of the Metro Rail Transit (MRT). Why did it start at North Avenue in Quezon City when it could have started at Monumento in Caloocan City, which is the northern start of Edsa? Of course, there is a plan to extend it up to Monumento. But why didn't it start at Monumento in the beginning?

I would like to request Transportation Secretary Pantaleon Alvarez to give attention and cure the defect in the apparent neglect of the northern portion of Metro Manila as far as the government's infrastructure projects are concerned. I also would like to call the attention of the congressmen from Valenzuela City and the province of Bulacan to work and lobby for the extension of the LRT or MRT to Valenzuela City then to Meycauayan or Marilao in Bulacan.

**—ELSA A. MESINA, Malinta
Village, Valenzuela City**

'Jobless growth'

YOUR editorial of April 16, 2002, titled "Jobless graduates," had a segment which gave your readers a misleading economic analysis.

What should give the new graduates some hope is the forecast of the Asian Development Bank that the economy is likely to grow by 4 percent this year, up from last year's 3.4 percent.

Why is this misleading? Because it ignores what economics calls the phenomenon of "jobless growth" which actually happened last year: although the economy grew by 3.4 percent, unemployment likewise increased.

Japan and other industrialized countries had episodes of jobless growth in their recent past. The front-page photo of your April 17 issue showing new graduates in togas demonstrating in Mendiola to ask for more jobs dramatizes the reality of jobless growth in the Philippine setting.

**—EPICTETUS
PATALINGHUG, professor of
Economics and Management,
UP Diliman, Quezon City**

'Collective leadership' is a strange animal

I FIND it inconceivable that Teodoro Benigno, a respected opinion writer and true-blue nationalist, would seek to overthrow the Macapagal administration. I refuse to believe that. I think there was a failure in communication and the idea was not fully discussed and explained and this made some people nervous.

Benigno's concept of a Freedom Force may be the desired movement that can prevent extremists from taking control of government that usually follows any chaotic political upheaval. But, sound as it may seem, I miss the ingredient that will give it popular support and by this I mean the concept is silent about the constitutional processes it should observe. It is frightening to think that the immense power of the President is left to the responsibility of a "collective leadership" (a revolutionary group?), that is not mandated by the people to manage the government. Collective leadership runs absolutely against the constitutional provision on presidential succession.

The succession of Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo to the presidency was widely accepted because, whether you like her to be your President or not, she was the elected Vice President. Her assumption of the presidency followed the constitutional processes as affirmed by the Supreme Court. Had it been by any other means such as a "collective leadership," the resulting mess could have been bloody. The Constitution would no longer be worth the paper it is written on and the Spirit of Edsa would have been betrayed and lost forever.

I subscribe to Benigno's concept, but please, let us work within the limits allowed by the Constitution.

**—CESAR M. DE LOS REYES,
122-B Taurus St., Cinco
Hermanos Subd.,
Marikina City**

Optimism of a tea kettle

WITH THE ENTRY of thousands of new graduates in the work force, their chances of getting employed have further narrowed as the unemployment rate now is 10.3 percent. How to create jobs for new jobseekers is indeed a big problem not only for the government, but for the private sector as well.

While many graduates were trained for white-collar jobs, various industries need skilled workers for their operations. There is, therefore, a need to intensify skills training programs throughout the country. It is also necessary to evolve some creative plans to generate jobs, particularly in depressed areas, where illegal gambling like *jueteng* is rampant. The government and the private sector could perhaps work out the pooling of talents and resources to set up projects requiring only minimal capital, but which are viable.

However, despite the present economic difficulties, an atmosphere of optimism that the country can ride out the storm, still prevails. Optimism, as an anonymous writer said, is "a cheerful frame of mind that enables a tea kettle to sing though in hot water up to its nose."

**—ADELFA L. ETRUISTE, E.
Glinoga Street, Barangay
Castillo, Pitogo, Quezon**

Alabang viaduct needs restrengthening

THIS is in regard to the article, titled "PNCC to blame for traffic 'hell' in Alabang." (PDI, 4/22/02) Please allow us to respond to some of the points raised in the news item.

To begin with, we have not allowed the use of the Alabang Viaduct only to vehicles with gross weight of 20 tons and above as a precautionary measure, since the 30-year-old viaduct needs a major structural refurbishment. This was based on the recommendation made by our engineering consultant, E.S. de Castro and Associates (Esca), which is now conducting the revalidation of its earlier findings. Nevertheless, it was recommended that complete rehabilitation of the project be implemented to comply with the latest building and structural code requirements.

This, however, would entail a huge amount of investment from the Philippine National Construction Corp. We have been finding ways of obtaining financial support for the implementation of the project. However, prevailing economic constraints make it difficult for us to acquire the needed assistance for this project.

About the problem of weighing bridges, it is the Department of Public Works and Highways which operate these, and problems concerning these weighing bridges should be referred to that agency.

In the meantime, aside from disallowing 20-ton vehicles the use of the viaduct, we conduct periodic inspections and repairs of the structure like weep hole drillings to relieve the structure's girders of additional weight.

We would like to assure Muntinlupa Rep. Ruffy Biazon, that the PNCC has not been amiss in its responsibility concerning the viaduct.

**—LUIS F. SISON, chair and
CEO, Philippine National
Construction Corp., Edsa cor.
Reliance Street, Mandaluyong
City**

WPP: Protector or abuser?

WE commend "Evangeline," the witness under the custody of the Department of Justice's Witness Protection Program (WPP) who was sexually abused by the security officer assigned to protect her, for her courage to speak out and bare the incident to the public. She has shown great resolve in seeking justice and we stand with her in this, hoping such abuses will cease.

We are extremely troubled about the incident, especially because of the information that Evangeline's case was not the only case of this kind involving the security officers of the WPP. The government program that was supposed to give witnesses safety not only failed to protect her but also failed to immediately act on her complaint. Persons under the WPP already suffer trauma because they witnessed various crimes. Their lives have been imperiled by previous experiences. With this incident, witnesses, especially women, have been put in worse danger.

We strongly condemn the actions of WPP Director Leo Dacera III who did nothing about Evangeline's complaints. Dacera, instead of immediately conducting an investigation, even cast doubt on the victim's grievance and made demeaning statements about her. Such actions are very irresponsible and reflect Dacera's capacity to head an institution that requires sensitivity and a great degree of humanity. Dacera lacks both and thus, does not deserve his position as head of the program. The incident, together with Dacera's response, has put in question the integrity of the program itself.

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo should call for a review of the WPP. We hold the government accountable for this incident since it happened under the noses of the DOJ authorities. We demand that justice be immediately given to Evangeline and all other women under the WPP who have become victims while in its custody.

We call on all other women victims under WPP custody to come out and expose these incidents so that we can put an end to these abuses. We in Gabriela commit our full support and assure them of our assistance in whatever way we can.

**—EMMI DE JESUS, deputy
secretary general, Gabriela, 35
Scout Delgado St.,
Barangay Laging Handa,
Quezon City**

IF you have any complaints, grievances or suggestions about the treatment of news and photos by the Inquirer, you may write to the Readers' Advocate, Philippine Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces Avenue, corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, City of Makati or send a fax to Nos. 897-4793, 897-4794, or e-mail readersadvocate@ inquirer.com.ph

Writers of letters to the editor are requested to include their complete address and telephone or pager number or e-mail address for verification purposes. The Inquirer will not publish any letter unless such information is supplied.

Islamic charities prosper despite US terror talk

FEATURE

Roland Rabal

DUBAI—The flood of donations rushes on—cash, jewels, cars and even kidneys given by Gulf Arabs to aid fellow Muslims abroad, disregarding US allegations about terrorist links to the charities they support.

Since the deadly attacks of Sept. 11, Washington has pressed for strict scrutiny of Islamic charities that it says are used to channel funds to "terrorists" such as Osama bin Laden.

Many governments in the Gulf have responded with monitoring measures, but donors—many already angry at Washington's support for Israel—have more faith in the charities than in the US accusations.

"America dares to call the Palestinians terrorists while they are defending their land. So how can we believe them when they say charities support terrorism?" said Hamed, a businessman from the United Arab Emirates who regularly contributes to Islamic causes.

"Those (charity workers) are honest people collecting money for the needy...I don't think America knows anything about Islam or charity work," he said.

Donating a portion of one's wealth to help the needy is one of Islam's basic pillars, topped in importance only by believing in God and praying.

Rulers and citizens of the oil-rich region donated tens of millions of dollars worth of cash and goods to the Palestinians after Israel stepped up its military campaign against the Palestinians last month.

Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar held telethons to collection donations that yielded around $100 million in just a few hours.

Men and women hurled cash and jewelry into charity boxes but a Saudi man and a UAE woman made pledges that would require special handling—each of them offering a kidney.

"Despite whatever America is saying, we trust our charities 100 percent. There is no doubt that the donations go to poor people and needy Muslim countries," another UAE national said.

Bankers said the region's tax regimes and the amount of cash exchanged outside the banking system make it nearly impossible to monitor the movement of money.

"The United States can never be sure whether these funds are going to the hands of terrorists or for humanitarian causes," a senior Omani banker said.

However, diplomats said new government monitoring has made a difference since Sept. 11.

"Since the attacks the charities have devised a form of self-control...charities are now more cautious to avoid suspicion," a Western diplomat said.

Several charities, particularly in Gulf Arab states, have appeared on a US blacklist of suspected "terror" financiers. At least two—Saudi Arabia's al-Haramain Islamic Foundation and Kuwait's Revival of Islamic Heritage Society—have denied the accusation.

Islamic charities have felt the heat before.

In the mid 1990s, Egypt and Algeria repeatedly asked Gulf governments to monitor the activities of charities that they said were funding Islamist militants, diplomats said.

But the stakes are higher now that the pressure is coming from the United States.

Saudi Arabia has ordered charities to coordinate overseas activity with the foreign ministry.

Ali al-Joureiss, director of the Islamic Relief Association office in Riyadh, one of the biggest charities in the kingdom with foreign operations, said the group operated under "absolute transparency."

More than 230 charities operate in the kingdom. They are all supervised by government agencies that appoint accountants and auditors to monitor their financial activities.

Officials said charities in Saudi Arabia have offices and representatives in some 55 countries and have in the past two decades contributed hundreds of millions of riyals in aid to Palestinians, Bosnians, Afghans and many others.

In October, Kuwait formed a state committee to control charity operations and end claims that some funds were being sent to extremist groups.

"There is more coordination with the Foreign Ministry now when it comes to charity projects abroad, government monitoring is stronger than before," said an official at the Kuwait-based Sheikh Abdullah al-Nouri Charity Association. ***Reuters***

Not with the peace panel

THIS pertains to the story, "Suspect in bomb scare was MILF peace panel member," published last April 19.

Your reporters, Edwin Fernandez and Charlie Señase of the PDI Mindanao Bureau, reported that Ronald Adamat, said to be a cousin of Roger Adamat who is implicated in the recent spate of bomb scares in Metro Manila and Mindanao, is an aide of Presidential Assistant for Mindanao Affairs Jesus G. Dureza. In my telephone conversation with Dureza, who is now on an official travel to Singapore for the BIMP-EAGA, he categorically denied having any employee or aide named Ronald Adamat. Neither is he connected, in any way, with the Office of the President-Mindanao and the Government Peace Negotiating Panel.

We hope that this erroneous report will be rectified at the earliest possible time for the public's information.

**—DIOSITA T. ANDOT,
executive director, GPNP for
Talks with the MILF, 10th
Floor, Agustin Bldg., Emerald
Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig
City**

THE CONFUSION could be attributed to Ronald Adamat's use of the title assistant secretary when he introduced himself in several radio interviews, while saying he is connected with the office of the presidential adviser on the peace process. We apologize for the error.

—PDI MINDANAO BUREAU

Your bank is praying you do not read this.

*SWITCH YOUR HOME LOAN
TO US FOR FREE** AND
WE'LL GIVE YOU*

5 years W/O *INTEREST.**

*PLUS, YOU GET 2% LESS*** ON
YOUR CURRENT LOAN RATE.*

*NOW WHICH BANK WOULD BE
SMART ENOUGH TO PULL THAT OFF?*

**Call: 848-5519 loc. 710 to 712
848-6523 to 26**

**or e-mail us at fiveyears@no-cost.com.ph
or text 0917-8445519**

**and see how one of the country's best performing banks
turns a good investment into a great one.**

** Applicable to the last 5 years of the 15 year loan term*
*** No transfer cost, appraisal, mortgage & application fees*
**** Applicable to the first year*
- *Initally available in Metro Manila, Cavite, Laguna, Rizal (Cainta, Antipolo & Taytay)*
- *New loans/borrowers are also welcome*

See posters for details

MEMBER: PDIC

Promo runs from April 29 to July 29, 2002
Per DTI-NCR Permit # 1590, Series of 2002

Globe Prepaid International Roamin

astonishing

Ponder on the extraordinary Leaning Tower of Pisa and keep within reach of loved ones no matter what. Globe Prepaid International Roaming gives you the most number of roaming partners worldwide so that you stay in the loop even when you're out of the country. You can make and receive calls or send and get text as you trek the globe using your existing Globe Handyphone number. Plus you can reload credits with unbelievable ease using call cards or through GlobeAutoload via www.bpiexpressonline.com. Experience this true wonder of the mobile world on your next journey. Call 730-1000 now for more information or visit any Globe Telecom Business Center today.

*Now you can roam in your favorite destinations: **USA · China · Thailand · Hong Kong · Indonesia · Singapore · UK · Australia · Italy · Germany**

service, the country's first and only.

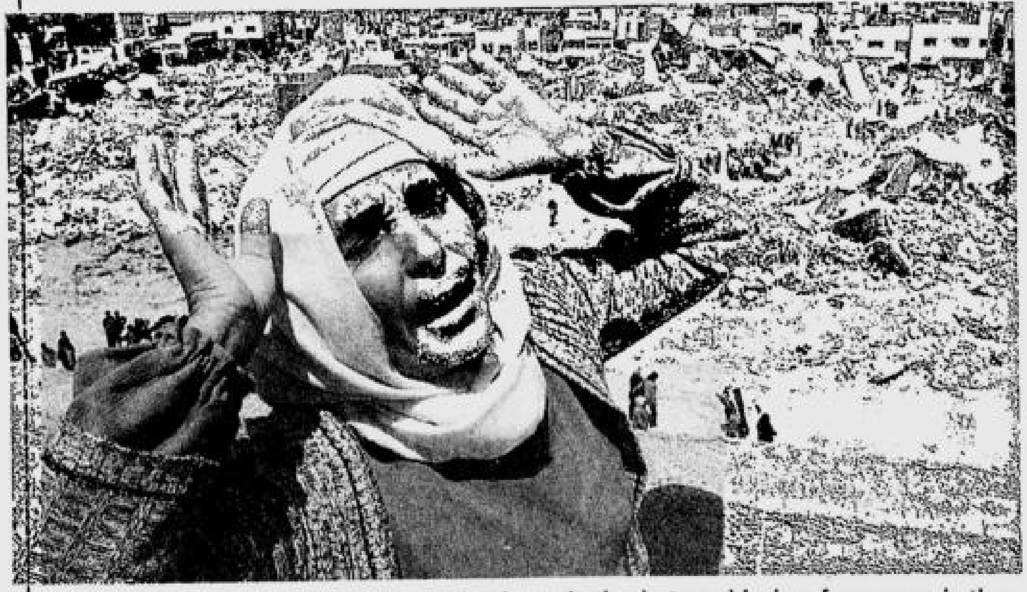
making great things possible

Globe
HANDYPHONE

The WORLD

Editor **Luverne B. Gueco**

Palestinian gunmen kill 4 Israelis



A PALESTINIAN woman gestures on top of her house in the destroyed Jenin refugee camp in the northern West Bank, April 28. A UN mission to find out what happened during Israel's three-week military operation in Jenin refugee camp is waiting in Geneva for a green light to depart for the region. REUTERS

JERUSALEM—Palestinian gunmen killed a 5-year-old girl and three other Israelis in a raid on a West Bank settlement, ratcheting up tensions ahead of a UN mission to probe Israel's military assault on the Jenin refugee camp.

The attack, in which infiltrators moved house to house shooting people in their bedrooms, took place as the UN "fact-finding" team waited in Geneva for the green light for their scheduled flight to the region on Sunday.

UN Secretary General Kofi Annan agreed to a one-day delay in the team's arrival to give Israel's cabinet time to take a formal decision on the mission, which has drawn Israeli objections over its scope and composition.

The cabinet's deliberations on Sunday morning were expected to be complicated by Israeli shock and anger at Saturday's attack, the first deadly raid on a West Bank settlement since the army invaded Palestinian-ruled cities a month ago.

Israel's four-week onslaught, including the devastating operation in the Jenin camp, was supposed to stop such killings.

But Saturday's raid on the Adora settlement raised new questions about Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's tough tactics.

Three gunmen cut through the perimeter fence surrounding Adora, a few kilometers west of the divided city of Hebron, while many residents were attending Sabbath prayers.

Attackers sprayed gunfire into one house, killing five-year-old Danielle Shefi. They broke into another house and shot a couple in their bedroom, killing a 45-year-old woman.

Two men were shot dead in the street, and eight people were wounded, including a four-year-old boy, officials said.

Yaakov Shefi raced home from the synagogue when he heard shooting and saw uniformed men outside his front door. He thought they were soldiers but then they opened fire on him.

"I looked for someone with a weapon and I began to scream "Terrorists!" he said.

He later learned his young daughter was among the dead.

"A wonderful girl who was murdered for nothing," the distraught father told Israeli television.

The army said troops on the outskirts of Hebron later killed an armed Palestinian believed to have been involved in the raid and were hunting for others. ***Reuters***

14 Christians killed in Indonesia's Ambon

JAKARTA—Wearing black masks and armed with daggers and homemade bombs, unidentified assailants stormed a Christian neighborhood in the religiously divided capital of Indonesia's Maluku province Sunday stabbing and burning to death 14 people, police said. The bloodshed threatened a fragile peace pact forged earlier this year.

The killings came two days after a militant Islamic group, Laskar Jihad, rejected the February peace deal which was meant to end three years of fighting between Muslims and Christians that left 9,000 dead.

"It may be the end of the peace deal," said Christian pastor Cornelius Bohm in Ambon. "There is no doubt that it was Laskar Jihad," he added, blaming the militants for the attack in the provincial capital, Ambon.

Laskar Jihad share suspected terrorist mastermind Osama bin Laden's anti-Western stance but its commander, Jafar Umar Thalib, has denied any links to international terror. The group could not be reached for comment on Sunday.

A senior police officer in Ambon, speaking on condition of anonymity, said 14 people had been killed on Sunday. National Police Chief Gen. Da'i Bactiar in Jakarta put the death toll lower at eight. Both officers refused to speculate on the religion of the killers.

Witnesses said the assailants attacked Soya village, on Ambon's outskirts, around 4 a.m., setting 30 homes and a Protestant church ablaze. Six were stabbed to death, including a 6-month-old baby. Six others were killed in the fires. The cause of the two other deaths was undetermined. Eleven were injured.

"The scene is horrible," said one witness on condition of anonymity. "I saw six bodies burned so badly you couldn't recognize them."

He said police were continuing to search the burned-out homes for more bodies.

Later Sunday, security officers fired warning shots to disperse a crowd of about a dozen Muslims in Ambon, a witness said. They had gathered after seeing several banned flags of the mostly Christian, separatist Maluku Sovereignty Front being flown above the city. No one was injured. ***AP***

3 dead, 14 hurt in 'wild west' shootout in Nevada

LAS VEGAS, Nevada—At least three people were killed by gunfire and 14 others shot or stabbed Saturday when a vicious brawl erupted between rival biker gangs in a US desert casino, police said.

Police took one person into custody, Las Vegas police spokesperson Tirso Dominguez said. A fourth body was found just over the state line in California, though police did not know whether that death was related to the brawl that erupted in the Harrah's in Laughlin, 160 km south of here.

The bikers were part of the 20th annual Laughlin River Run, a five-day motorcycle pilgrimage that drew an estimated 80,000 motorcyclists from across the country to the Colorado River resort town that normally has only 8,000 residents.

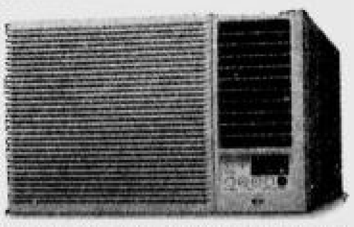
Police said automatic gunfire broke out at 2:13 a.m. on the casino floor and in the bar.

"It was really frightening when the shooting started," one female gambler told reporters. "We ducked down next to the slot machine where we were playing. We were just terrified." ***AFP***

LG AIR-CON SPECIALIST WARNING: Buying A Wrong-Sized Air Conditioner Is Dangerous To Your Health And Finances.

LG Life's Good!

Size does matter when it comes to choosing the right air conditioner. Buy an undersized one and you'll be sweating over high electric bills and a too-warm temperature. On the other hand, an oversized air-con can be downright bone-chilling in terms of atmosphere and energy consumption. Fortunately, the solution to choosing the right-sized air-con is as easy as asking an LG Air-con Specialist in your favorite appliance store. **Be wise. Choose the right size.**



LG Collins Electronics Manila No. 15 F. Legaspi St., Maybunga, Pasig City Tel. Nos. 641-4181 up to 85. Fax 640-0460. Customer Information Center: 640-2525

Expelled German teen aimed to kill all teachers

BERLIN—The German teenager who shot dead 16 people at his old high school weeks after being expelled was a gun fanatic who was systematically trying to kill the entire teaching staff, government officials said Saturday.

The 19-year-old, not officially identified but named in the press as Robert Steinhaeuser, was clearly aiming at teachers at the Gutenberg school, said Bernhard Vogel, head of Thuringia state's government. Thirteen of the dead were staff members.

Vogel quoted a witness to Friday's rampage who explained how the former student, apparently bitter about having been expelled, had entered one classroom but left without firing because there was no teacher inside.

In Erfurt, several thousand people attended ecumenical masses at churches late Friday, while church bells rang out across the city.

People brought flowers to the school entrance until well after midnight and others were still stopping to lay wreaths outside the building on Saturday, while a long line had formed at city hall, where people were signing a book of condolences.

Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder, who said he was "stunned and horrified" at the massacre, on Saturday visited the town and placed a wreath at the school.

Schroeder also joined a prayer service in Erfurt Cathedral. Vogel used the occasion to call for a nationwide minute of silence.

He also said a funeral service would be held for the victims on May 3.

Deputy state interior minister Manfred Scherer said most of the dead—13 staff, two students and a police officer—were killed by shots to the head before the youth turned his weapon on himself.

A CRYING policewoman is comforted by a colleague as they leave the main entrance of the Gutenberg secondary school in Erfurt April 27. REUTERS

The gunman, armed with a pump-action shotgun which he did not use and a pistol with which he fired more than 40 shots, also left 10 people injured, all of them in stable condition in hospital.

Police said Saturday that a courageous teacher had brought an end to his rampage by locking the youth in a classroom. The former student had then shot himself as police closed in.

They said the gunman was a member of two gun clubs and had permits for the arms and that they were trying check a rumor that he had sent a text message by mobile telephone to one of his former classmates warning him not to go to school.

While the details of the attack became clearer Saturday, there was no answer as to why the youth, described by one fellow-student as happy, intelligent and well-liked, had carried out the attack.

Flags flew at half-mast across the country as the media debated why the former student ran amok. His expulsion in February, apparently because he cut classes and faked sick notes, seemed to be the only early clue.

The gunman, masked and clad in black, stormed the Gutenberg school in Erfurt at about 11 a.m. on Friday.

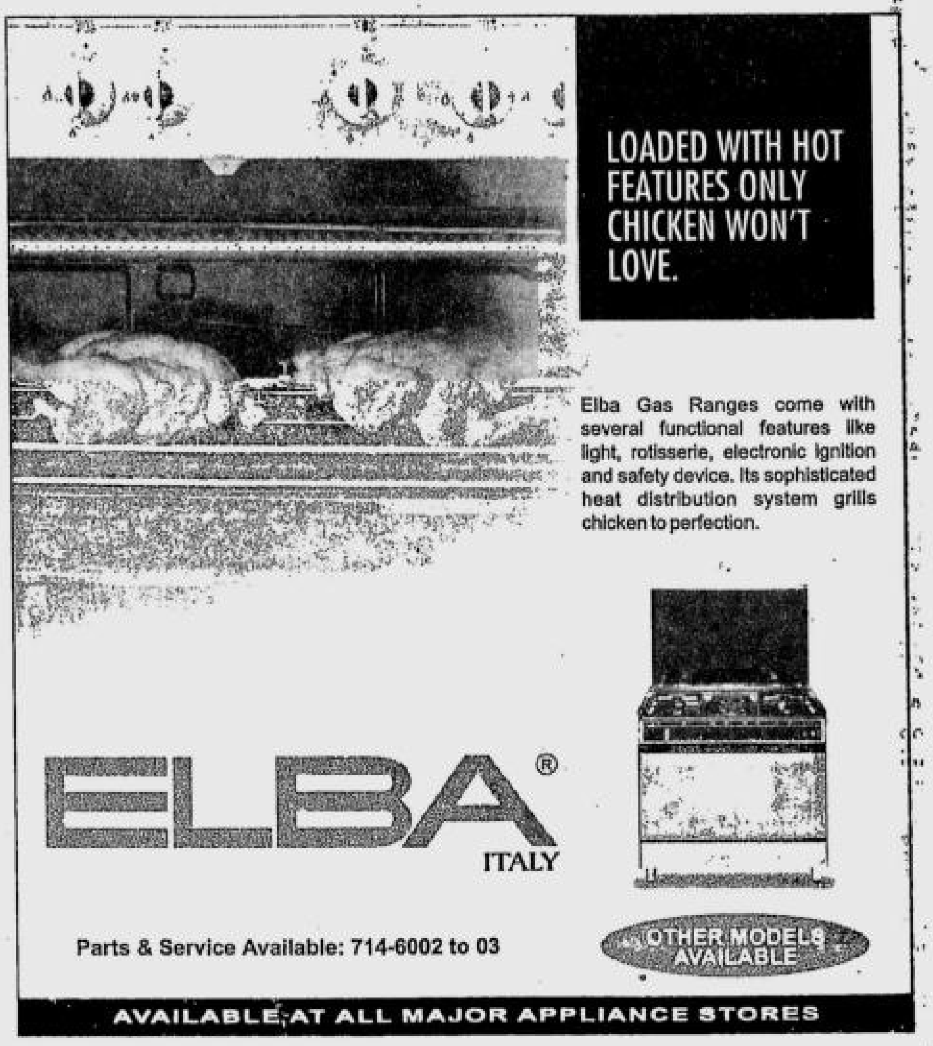
He charged into a room where students were taking a mathematics test and said: "I'm not going to write anything," before beginning to shoot, students said.

It was the worst such incident in Europe since March 1996 in Dunblane, Scotland, when a mentally ill man shot dead 16 children and their teacher before turning his gun on himself. *AFP*

The Frankfurter Allgemeine newspaper wondered why nobody had been able to predict the incident given that the killer had been expelled and had obviously come to the attention of the school authorities.

"Where are we living in fact, and what have we come to?" asked the conservative daily Die Welt, saying that school as a haven for children had now become a thing of the past in Germany.

The cardinal of Cologne, Joachim Meisner, lamented what he said was a loss of faith among German youth and that the former student had no one he could turn to. *AFP*


LOADED WITH HOT FEATURES ONLY CHICKEN WON'T LOVE.

Elba Gas Ranges come with several functional features like light, rotisserie, electronic ignition and safety device. Its sophisticated heat distribution system grills chicken to perfection.

ELBA® ITALY

Parts & Service Available: 714-6002 to 03

OTHER MODELS AVAILABLE

AVAILABLE AT ALL MAJOR APPLIANCE STORES

176 priests across America linked to child molestation

NEW YORK—At least 176 priests suspected of molesting minors have either resigned or been taken off duty in America since the clerical sex scandal erupted in January, a nationwide review of Roman Catholic dioceses by The Associated Press found.

The review also showed that in 18 states where priests have not been taken off the job, dioceses still have responded to the crisis in a variety of ways. They include turning over allegations to prosecutors, scouring personnel records to see whether old claims were properly handled, and reviewing and publicizing policies for handling complaints.

In the end, the review found only four states—Arkansas, Tennessee, Utah and Wyoming—where the scandal seems to have had no impact on the way the church operates.

"It's been years since I've met a diocesan attorney who said, 'I'm lucky, I haven't had any cases,'" said Patrick Schiltz, a lawyer who has defended dioceses against hundreds of claims.

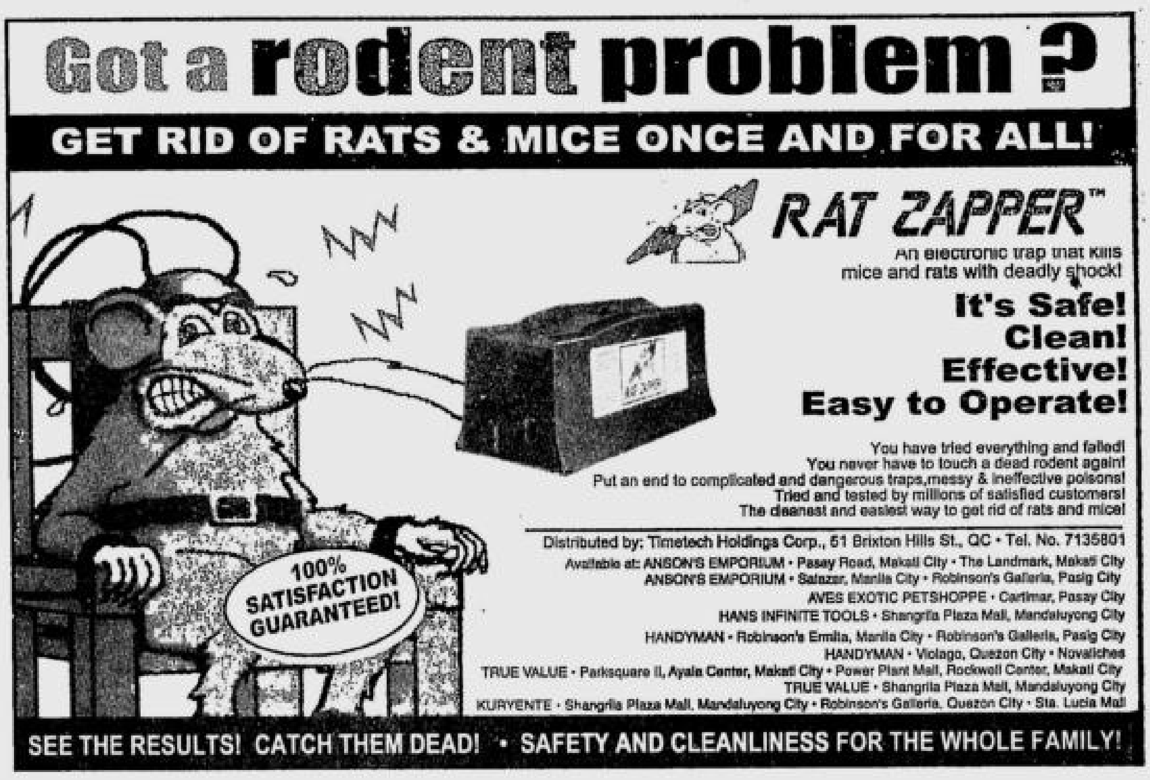
AP reporters across America interviewed Catholic officials last week about the scandal's impact in their dioceses. The information they collected helps demonstrate how the crisis has developed in just four months.

For instance, bishops have given law enforcement authorities details of claims against at least 260 clergymen. Some of those priests are among those taken off duty but others are long retired, and state attorneys say many of the cases are probably too old to prosecute.

The number of priests disciplined since January may be higher than 176, since several dioceses would not say how many clergy they suspended. Schiltz said the number sounded low.

Even if the figure were higher, it would still likely represent less than half of 1 percent of the 46,075 priests in the United States. And many of the complaints come from decades ago. The allegations that prompted Bishop Anthony O'Connell of Palm Beach, Florida, to resign dated from the 1970s, for example.

While the church had faced abuse scandals in the past, Boston Cardinal Bernard Law's admission in January that he allowed a pedophile priest to continue to serve sparked a new level of public anger. *AP*


Got a rodent problem ?

GET RID OF RATS & MICE ONCE AND FOR ALL!

RAT ZAPPER™

An electronic trap that kills mice and rats with deadly shock!

It's Safe!
Clean!
Effective!
Easy to Operate!

You have tried everything and failed!
You never have to touch a dead rodent again!
Put an end to complicated and dangerous traps,messy & ineffective poisons!
Tried and tested by millions of satisfied customers!
The cleanest and easiest way to get rid of rats and mice!

100% SATISFACTION GUARANTEED!

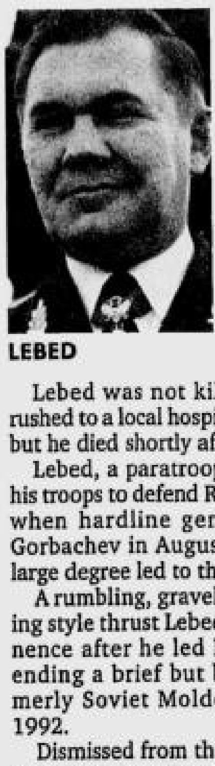
Distributed by: Timetech Holdings Corp., 51 Brixton Hills St., QC • Tel. No. 7135801
Available at: ANSON'S EMPORIUM • Pasay Road, Makati City • The Landmark, Makati City
ANSON'S EMPORIUM • Salazar, Manila City • Robinson's Galleria, Pasig City
AVES EXOTIC PETSHOPPE • Cartimar, Pasay City
HANS INFINITE TOOLS • Shangrila Plaza Mall, Mandaluyong City
HANDYMAN • Robinson's Ermita, Manila City • Robinson's Galleria, Pasig City
HANDYMAN • Violago, Quezon City • Novaliches
TRUE VALUE • Parksquare II, Ayala Center, Makati City • Power Plant Mall, Rockwell Center, Makati City
TRUE VALUE • Shangrila Plaza Mall, Mandaluyong City
KURYENTE • Shangrila Plaza Mall, Mandaluyong City • Robinson's Galleria, Quezon City • Sta. Lucia Mall

SEE THE RESULTS! CATCH THEM DEAD! • SAFETY AND CLEANLINESS FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

Russia's Lebed dies in crash

NOVOSIBIRSK, Russia—Alexander Lebed, who played a key role in foiling the 1991 coup against Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and ran for president against Boris Yeltsin five years later, died in a helicopter crash on Sunday.

An Emergencies Ministry spokesperson in the vast Siberian region of Krasnoyarsk, where Lebed was governor, said the helicopter hit a power line and crashed minutes before it was due to land in bad weather.


LEBED

At least six other people were killed in the crash. There were thought to be at least 10 people on board the helicopter.

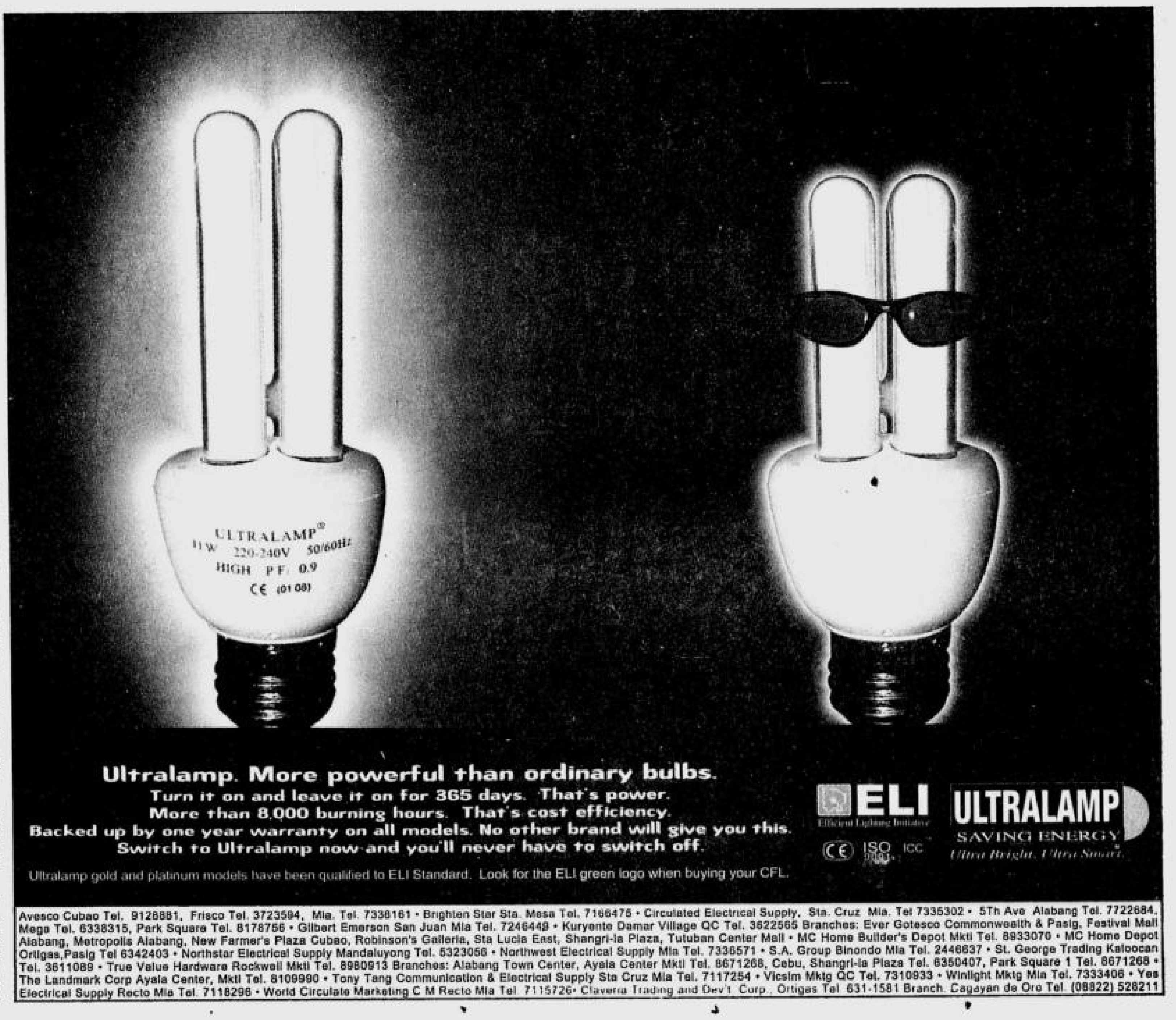
Lebed was not killed outright and was rushed to a local hospital with other survivors, but he died shortly afterwards.

Lebed, a paratroop commander, ordered his troops to defend Russian President Yeltsin when hardline generals moved to oust Gorbachev in August 1991. His move to a large degree led to the coup's collapse.

A rumbling, gravel voice and blunt speaking style thrust Lebed to more public prominence after he led Russia's 14th Army in ending a brief but bloody conflict in formerly Soviet Moldova in the summer of 1992.

Dismissed from the armed forces in 1995, he entered parliament that year and ran against Yeltsin in the 1996 presidential election, promising to end the endemic corruption of the post-Soviet economy.

After finishing a creditable third, he threw his support behind Yeltsin to defeat Communist challenger Gennady Zyuganov and took on a senior role in the Kremlin Security Council, negotiating a peace that year with Muslim Chechen rebels. *Reuters*


ULTRALAMP® 11W 220-240V 50/60Hz HIGH PF 0.9 CE (01 08)

Ultralamp. More powerful than ordinary bulbs.
Turn it on and leave it on for 365 days. That's power.
More than 8,000 burning hours. That's cost efficiency.
Backed up by one year warranty on all models. No other brand will give you this.
Switch to Ultralamp now and you'll never have to switch off.

Ultralamp gold and platinum models have been qualified to ELI Standard. Look for the ELI green logo when buying your CFL.

ELI Efficient Lighting Initiative
CE ISO ICC
ULTRALAMP SAVING ENERGY Ultra Bright. Ultra Smart.

Avesco Cubao Tel. 9126881, Frisco Tel. 3723594, Mla. Tel. 7338161 • Brighten Star Sta. Mesa Tel. 7166475 • Circulated Electrical Supply, Sta. Cruz Mla. Tel 7335302 • 5Th Ave Alabang Tel. 7722684, Mega Tel. 6338315, Park Square Tel. 8178756 • Gilbert Emerson San Juan Mla Tel. 7246449 • Kuryente Damar Village QC Tel. 3622565 Branches: Ever Gotesco Commonwealth & Pasig, Festival Mall Alabang, Metropolis Alabang, New Farmer's Plaza Cubao, Robinson's Galleria, Sta Lucia East, Shangri-la Plaza, Tutuban Center Mall • MC Home Builder's Depot Mkti Tel. 8933070 • MC Home Depot Ortigas,Pasig Tel 6342403 • Northstar Electrical Supply Mandaluyong Tel. 5323056 • Northwest Electrical Supply Mla Tel. 7336571 • S.A. Group Binondo Mla Tel. 2446637 • St. George Trading Kalookan Tel. 3611089 • True Value Hardware Rockwell Mkti Tel. 8980913 Branches: Alabang Town Center, Ayala Center Mkti Tel. 8671268, Cebu, Shangri-la Plaza Tel. 6350407, Park Square 1 Tel. 8671268 • The Landmark Corp Ayala Center, Mktl Tel. 8109990 • Tony Tang Communication & Electrical Supply Sta Cruz Mla Tel. 7117254 • Vicsim Mktg QC Tel. 7310933 • Winlight Mktg Mla Tel. 7333406 • Yes Electrical Supply Recto Mla Tel. 7118298 • World Circulate Marketing C M Recto Mla Tel. 7115726• Claveria Trading and Dev't. Corp., Ortigas Tel. 631-1581 Branch. Cagayan de Oro Tel. (08822) 528211

Northern Luzon Bureau
Room 201, Benuan Apartella
10 Happy Glen Loop, Baguio City
Tel. No. (074) 443-9255
Fax No. (074) 443-8971
E-mail: inq_baguio@inquirer.com.ph

Southern Luzon Bureau
23 Aurora St.,Old Albay District
Legazpi City
Tel. No . (052) 820-8402
Fax No. (052) 820-1274
E-mail: inq_bicol@inquirer.com.ph

Across the NATION

Assistant Editor Tony Bergonia

Visayas Bureau
c/o Cebu Daily News
18-15 Escario St., Cebu City
Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0346/233-0349
Fax No. (032) 232-9838
E-mail: pdivis@skyinet.net

Mindanao Bureau
FEP Printing Corp. Bldg.
Ma-a Road, Davao City
Tel. Nos. (082) 244-1770 to 71
Fax no. (082) 2441771
E-mail:
pdiminda@dv.webling.com

DILG asked to probe Bicol cops in kidnap

Witness tags top police officials as crime bosses

NAGA CITY—The Naga City Council passed a resolution last week asking the Department of Interior and Local Government to investigate the alleged involvement of several police officers in a kidnapping case here on Jan. 30, 2001.

Councilor Gabriel Bordado, principal author of the resolution, said a witness confessed before a regional trial court here that high-ranking police officers in Bicol were behind a series of kidnappings, robberies and hold-ups in 2000 to 2001.

Nilo Almendral, 28, who was linked to a kidnap-for-ransom case last year, told Regional Trial Court Branch 32 that Supt. Almario Hilario, Bicol deputy regional police director for administration, helped plot the kidnapping of the Co Say sisters.

The victims were released allegedly after paying ransom of P4.6 million, from which, Almendral said he received P180,000.

Based on court records, Almendral also identified a certain Maj. Rolando Montes, SPO4 Henryguito B. Canuel, one Inspector Dotimas, and several other policemen who allegedly plotted criminal activities in Camarines Sur and Metro Manila.

But in various radio interviews, the implicated officers vehemently denied Almendral's allegations, saying the man had an axe to grind against them.

"That's one of the hazards of being a police officer. Either you will be killed or maligned while you are doing your duty. Supposing I was the brains... I would not be stupid to trust a man like him," said Hilario.

"The revelations of Almendral were full of inconsistencies and I am now preparing my defense," Hilario said as he went over a file of records on his table at his quarters at Camp Gen. Simeon Ola.

Chief Supt. Enrique Galang, Bicol police chief, said he has recommended the temporary relief of Hilario from his office to avoid any doubts that the case would be whitewashed.

He said he has ordered the relief of the other officers identified by Almendral for the same reason.

"I pity the other officers implicated. They were just doing their job well. Montes and her mother had (heart) attacks after the disclosure of Almendral," Hilario said.

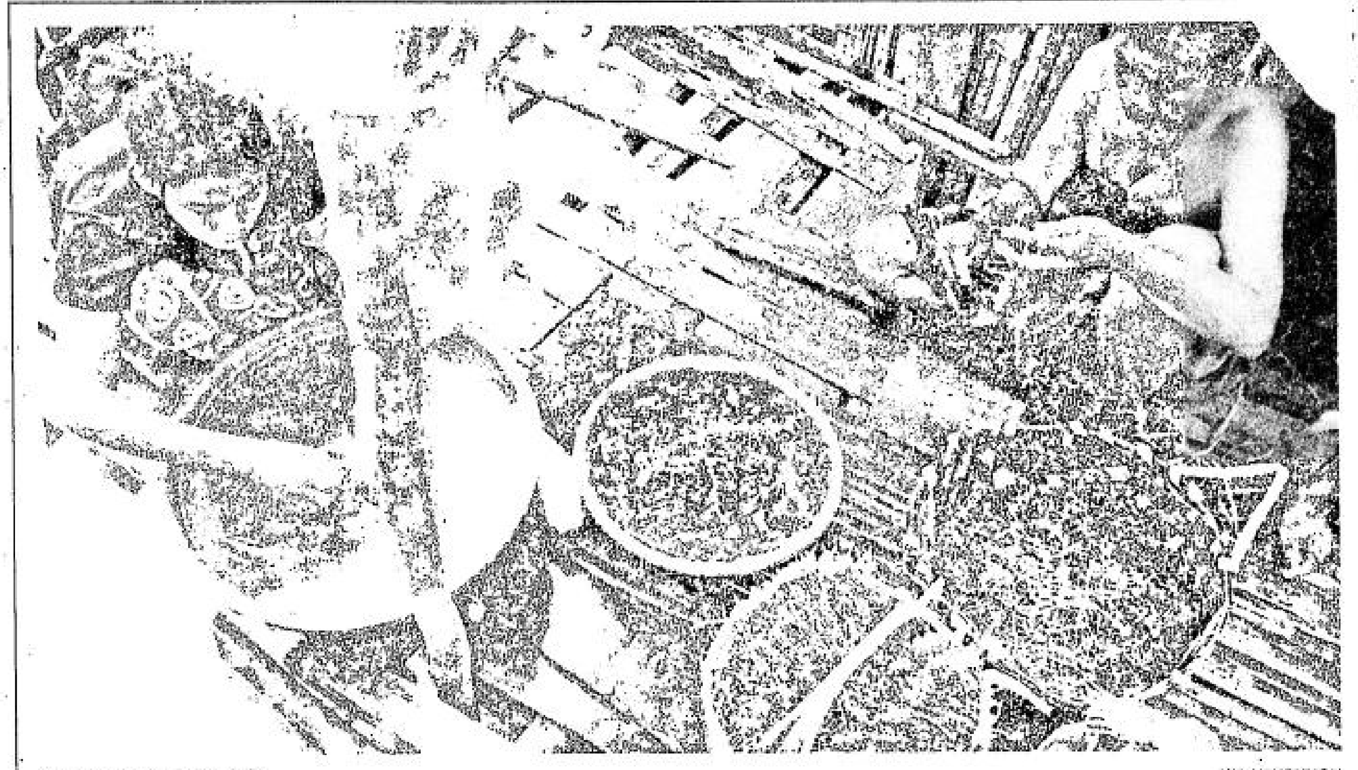
He said the families of the police officers are suffering from the revelations of Almendral.

In his direct testimony in open court last Friday, Almendral also named Jojo Barcelona, Ding Compuesto, Gabriel Bacuña, Nelson Asoro and Dante Moises Brimbuela as the other members of the crime syndicate.

He said the same persons staged the kidnapping of the Co Say sisters.

He detailed the alleged participation in the crime gang of the persons he incriminated.

On April 10, Almendral said he decided to volunteer himself as a witness to the Co Say kidnap-for-ransom case after a certain SPO4 Ruel Relova visited him. ***Juan Escandor Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***



MANUAL LABOR VAL HANDUMON

The next time you eat seaweed, think of the effort that went into preparing it for the dining table. Seaweed gathering is the main source of livelihood for these Badjao tribe members in Taluksangay, Zamboanga City.

French cavers discover virgin cave in Samar

By Vicente S. Labro
PDI Visayas Bureau

TACLOBAN CITY—A group of French nationals has just ended their exploration of a virgin cave that lies in the heart of Samar.

But Jean-Paul Sounier, the team leader, told the INQUIRER that they would be coming back probably next year to continue the exploration of the Canyawa Cave (Devil's Cave) which, he said, has a total length of about 50 kilometers.

The group, which has been exploring the Canyawa Cave since March 21, was forced to leave the cave when they reached a portion where the passage was small and with strong water current flowing into it.

"The current was so strong it could easily swallow us," Sounier told the INQUIRER.

But he vowed to return next year to continue the exploration. He said they would try to find the other end of the tunnel for "it is safer if one is going against the current." From there they would try to connect from where they left in their expedition this year.

It was also learned that the group's cave exploration permit with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources was only from March 21 to April 26.

Sounier, 51, led the team composed of nine French professional cavers including one woman and a young Filipino guide and interpreter. They left for Manila on Saturday.

Sounier, who had been exploring caves in his native France and other countries including Papua New Guinea, said that the Canyawa Cave is pristine and one of the most beautiful caves he had explored. He said the cave contains unique formations that have remained undisturbed.

Balikatan flights suspended after crash of PAF helicopter

CLARK SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE—All training flights of the Philippine Air Force for the Balikatan exercises in Luzon have been suspended following the crash of one of its MG520 attack helicopter here on Friday.

All the PAF's 20 aircraft participating in the exercises have been grounded, according to Col. Danilo Ferrer, PAF's events director here.

Ferrer said it was a standard operating procedure for the PAF to suspend flights when any unit in its inventory meets an accident.

"(The resumption) depends on the result of the investigation," he added.

Air Force chief Lt. Gen. Benjamin Defensor sent a team to look into the cause of the crash of the MG520, an attack helicopter, at the edge of the south runway of the Diosdado Macapagal International Airport here at 6:35 p.m. Friday. The helicopter came from the Army's Fort Magsaysay in Nueva Ecija where it took part in close air support training with US Marines.

The crash happened on the first week of the joint training, which ends on May 6.

Maj. Allan Ballesteros, public information officer of the 600th Air Base Wing, said pilots First Lt. Raymond Asido and First Lt. Shiela Grace Vicente, both from the 15th Fighter Wing, suffered minor injuries although the helicopter's front was wrecked and its tail severed.

A six-member team from the US Marine Corps and PAF used power tools to remove the pilots. They were flown to the V. Luna Memorial Hospital on Friday night.

Initial investigation showed "no immediate indications of foul play" in the crash, according to Col. Charles Hotchkiss, deputy commander of the 600th Air Base Wing.

Ferrer said four training flights scheduled on Saturday had been suspended. "We want to be extra careful," he said.

The crash of the MG520 was the third in the PAF in the last 13 months.

On March 26 last year, an OV-10 plane crashed and exploded in a vacant lot near thickly populated villages in Mabalacat town, north of Clark. The crash killed a woman pilot and seriously injured her male co-pilot. ***Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk***

Villagers told to get used to jet noise

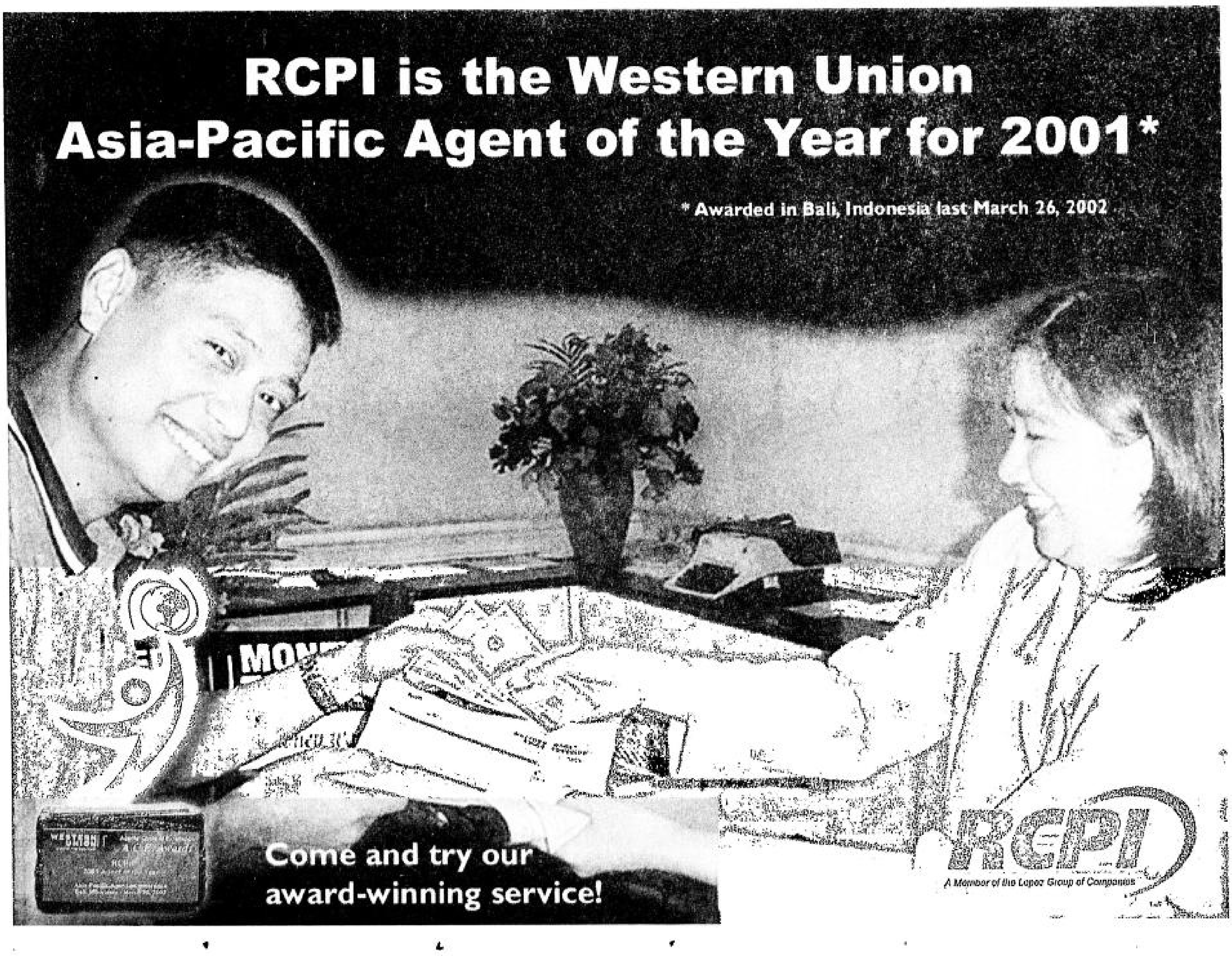
CLARK SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE—A Philippine Air Force official overseeing training flights for Balikatan 02-2 in Luzon said residents around Clark should get used to the noise pollution from aircraft because it was "part of industrialization."

Residents of Mabalacat town and Angeles City, which are near Clark, a former United States air base and now an economic zone hosting Bali-katan exercises, have complained to local officials about the noise and risks of low-flying planes.

Col. Danilo Ferrer, Balikatan's PAF events director, said the complaints have not reached his office. The Presidential Commission on the Visiting Forces Agreement, which monitors the conduct of the Philippine-US exercises, has also not relayed the complaints to Balikatan directors, he said.

But Ferrer assured them they were safe, saying low-flying flights for the three-week training were within the prescribed altitude set by the Air Transportation Office and the Air Force Safety Office.

The aircraft—C-130s, F-5s, F-18s and a variety of helicopters — have been flying at a height of 300 feet. ***Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk***


RCPI is the Western Union Asia-Pacific Agent of the Year for 2001*
* Awarded in Bali, Indonesia last March 26, 2002
Come and try our award-winning service!
RCPI
A Member of the Lopez Group of Companies

50 ex-NPAs rally for release of comrade

By Ma. Diosa Labiste
PDI Visayas Bureau

GUIMBAL, Iloilo—More than 50 followers of the Revolutionary Proletarian Army-Alex Boncayao Brigade (RPA-ABB) staged a rally outside a courtroom here on Thursday to demand the release of a comrade who is facing murder charges.

Arturo Tabara, chair of the Revolutionary Partido ng Manggagawa ng Pilipinas (RPMP), led the protesters in demanding the immediate release of Joven Tababa, who is tagged as the suspect in the slaying of Hernani Templo in September 1999 and Santiago Tubola in May 2000.

The RPMP is the political arm of the RPA-ABB. They broke away from the mainstream Communist Party of the Philippines, the New People's Army and the National Democratic Front in the early 1990s over ideological differences.

A member of the RPA-ABB, Tababa is charged with murder along with Jose Cabunagon, one of the leaders of the RPA-ABB on Panay Island. Tababa pleaded guilty to the murder charges.

But the protesters claimed that Tababa should be released because he committed the murders "in pursuit of his ideological belief."

They also said there is an ongoing peace agreement, signed in December 2000, between the government and the RPA-ABB that grants amnesty to detained rebels.

Aurora Cutanda, secretary general of the Philippine Alliance of Human Rights Advocates-Panay, said the court should release Tababa to "fully implement" the peace agreement.

Tabara told Judge Teodulo Colada of Regional Trial Court Branch 67 that the detention and prosecution of Tababa is a "hostile act of the government," and may derail the peace accord.

He added that other RPA-ABB members held for various offenses had been released in Negros Occidental and there was no reason Tababa shouldn't be accorded the same treatment.

But Colada told Tabara to put his appeal in writing and submit it in 30 days.

Army Col. Red Kapunan, who represented Presidential Adviser on Peace Process Eduardo Ermita, told Colada that the peace accord "would not be affected by Tababa's case."

Ex-rebels tapped to fight crime

COTABATO CITY—Wary about the frequent killings and the rising number of robberies here, Mayor Muslimin Sema sought the assistance of Moro National Liberation Front integrees to reinforce the city's existing police force.

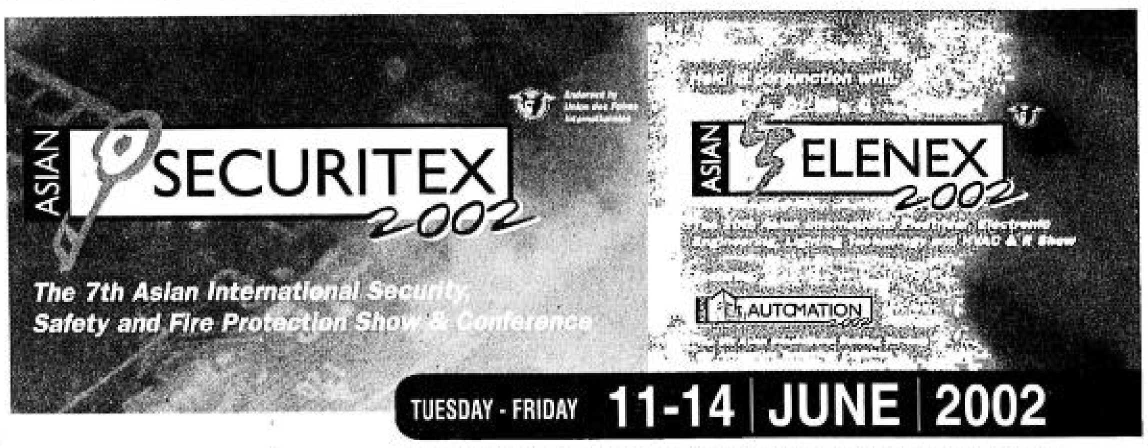
But a group calling itself the Mindanao Christian Alliance (MCA) expressed opposition to the idea, saying it might just complicate the worsening peace and order situation in the city.

The MCA earlier wrote Interior Secretary Jose Lina Jr. to stop Sema's plan arguing that the bloodshed in Jolo in January might be repeated here.

More than 20 people were killed in Jolo when former MNLF rebels integrated into the police clashed with Marine troops during a pro-Misuari rally.

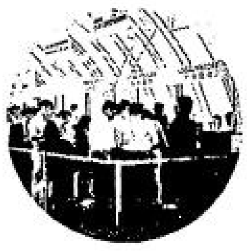
Those involved were later sent back to their headquarters in Parang, Maguindanao.

Lina urged the city council to look into the matter. ***Charlie C. Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau***


ASIAN SECURITEX 2002
The 7th Asian International Security, Safety and Fire Protection Show & Conference
ASIAN ELENEX 2002
AUTOMATION

TUESDAY - FRIDAY 11-14 JUNE 2002
Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre

ASIA'S LEADING INTERNATIONAL SECURITY SHOW



- Meet over **500** exhibitors from countries and regions including China, Canada, Germany, Hong Kong, Israel, Korea, Spain, Taiwan, the UK and the USA
- Source **new products** and get up-to-date with **developing technologies** in Building Services & Automation, Electrical & Electronic Engineering, HVAC & R, Lighting, Security, Safety and Fire Protection, Access Control, Energy Saving and more...
- Attend professional technical seminars presented by leaders in the industry

Pre-register NOW as a visitor
www.asiansecuritex.com
and enjoy FREE ADMISSION, FREE SHOW DIRECTORY, LOUNGE COUPONS ... and even a chance to win FREE AIR TICKETS!
Deadline for pre-registration: 22 May 2002

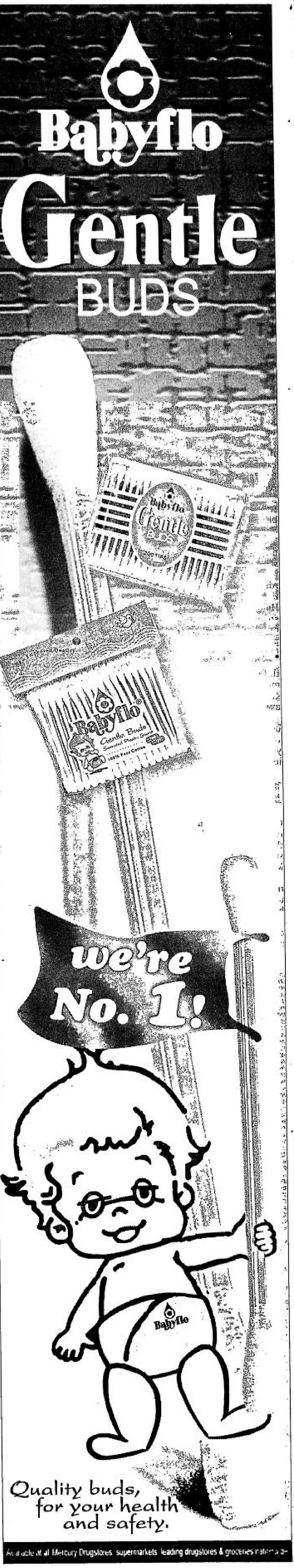
Organisers:
Hong Kong Exhibition Services Ltd
Tel: +852 2804 1500
Fax: +852 2528 3103
E-mail: exhibit@hkesmontnet.com.hk

Recommended Travel Agent:
Levan Travel & Tours International Inc
Tel: +632 8671286 / 8942755
Fax: +632 8671286
Contact: Ms Christie Lao

A Member of The Montgomery Network

The Art of Defining Space
Ciudad del Rey, Las Piñas City
Variwall
Operable Wall

varifold architectural products, inc.
The art of defining space
3187 Kalayaan Avevue, Makati City Tel. Nos.: 8820271 to 73 • 7292667 Fax: 8820269 e-mail: avl@varifold.com • www.varifold.com
Plant Address: Sitio Payong, Brgy. Dalig, Antipolo City


Babyflo
Gentle
BUDS
we're No. 1!
Babyflo
Quality buds, for your health and safety.

Available at all Mercury Drugstores supermarkets leading drugstores & groceries nationwide

GIFT OF AUSTRALIA
Australian Agency for International Development

Inauguration of the Social Development Center for Streetchildren of Pasay City with Her Excellency President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo as Guest of Honor

Nayon ng Kabataan Compound, NAIA Road, Pasay City, April 29, 2002

THE Social Development Center (SDC) for street children is a component of the recently completed Street Children Nutrition and Education Project (SCNEP) and its expansion phase, the Street and Urban Working Children Project (SUWCP) jointly implemented by the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) and the Australian Government through the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), in support of President Arroyo's anti-poverty program. The project is being implemented in 25 LGUs in partnership with 84 non-government organizations and government agencies.

Under the SCNEP, the DILG puts up a counterpart fund of P41 M for the construction of the SDC in the 13 LGUs while under the SUWCP, AusAID through its Vulnerable Groups Facility(VGF) provides funds for the construction and equipping of the SDCs amounting to P54 M in the additional 12 LGUs. The participating LGUs provide the lot, personnel to man the center and the maintenance and operating expenses.

To date, 10 SDCs have been completed out of the targeted 25 centers in the cities of Baguio, Angeles, Olongapo, Caloocan, Quezon, Manila, Makati, Parañaque, Bacolod, Iloilo, Cebu, Davao, Cagayan de Oro, Pasig, Mandaluyong, Pasay, Muntinlupa, Las Piñas, Naga, Legazpi, Lapu-Lapu, Mandaue, Zamboanga, General Santos and Cotabato.

Aside from the SDC, the project also provides rice as incentive to street and urban working children and their parents to motivate and encourage them to avail of educational and training opportunities, and social services being provided by the LGUs, NGOs and GOs. This will prepare them for integration into the mainstream of society.

The SUWCP complements the government's existing programs on street and urban working children, and supports the social-development related activities of the LGUs and the non-government organizations. To date, more than 69,000 street and urban working children, parents and volunteers were granted rice assistance amounting to P242.6 M. Around 39,000 street and urban working children were enrolled in formal education while over 10,000 attended non-formal education and were provided with various school supplies amounting to P28.6 M.

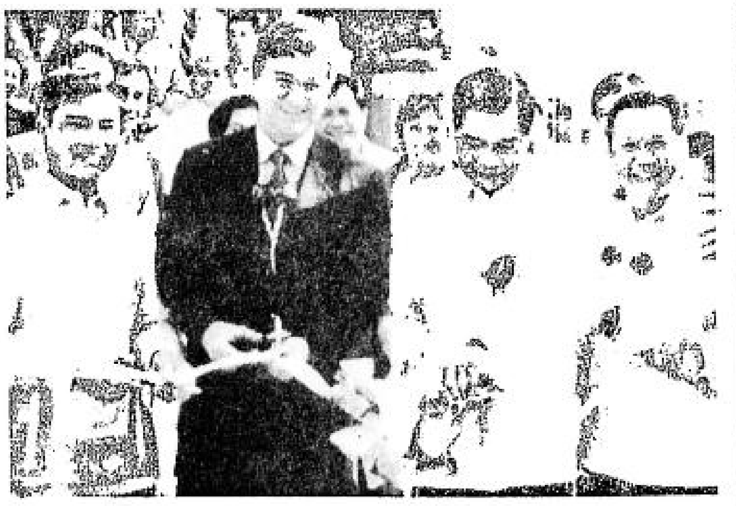
Under the project, the parent-beneficiaries were also given financial support through the livelihood assistance in terms of soft loans to augment their meager income. A total of 843 parents were provided financial assistance while 1,015 were already trained in various skills like dressmaking, cosmetology, food processing and preservation, handicraft, candlemaking, etc.

Some of the project's major accomplishments are as follows: around 20,000 street children were either drawn away from the streets or lessened their time spent in the streets while 10,603 street children have shifted from non-formal education to formal education; 6,091 street children were either returned/ reconciled with their families; 1,303 children provided shelter care and protective custody throught the SDC.; and the parent-beneficiaries have realized a 75% average increase in their household income due to the livelihood assistance provided under the SUWCP.

The project will remain in its commitment to uplift the socio-economic conditions of the urban poor, basically, the street children by providing them access to better educational and training opportunities and other social services. Moreover, it will also support the national and local initiatives in addressing various concerns of the street children and enhance the capacities of the LGUs and NGOs/GAs in handling food-assisted development projects and promote close partnership among them..

Social Development Centers (SDCs)

	Cities	Location	Completion Date
1.	Angeles	City Hall Complex Bgy. Pulong Maragul	June 28, 2000
2.	Bacolod	PNP Compound, Magsaysay Ave,. Bgy. Taculing	July 10, 2000
3.	Olongapo	Bgy. Old Cabalan	September 4, 2000
4.	Davao	C.M. Recto St.	November 30, 2000
5.	Caloocan	Rainbow Ave., Rainbow Vill. V Bagombong	May 5, 2001
6.	Muntinlupa	Tiosejo Subd., Bgy. Tunasan	February 6, 2002
7.	Cebu	Katipunan St., Bgy. Labangon	February 15, 2002
8.	Zamboanga	Pettit Barracks, Bgy. Sta. Barbara	February 21, 2002
9.	Pasay	Nayon ng Kabataan Compound NAIA Road	April 25, 2002
10.	Pasig	Nagpayong, Bgy. Pinagbuhatan	April 29, 2002



Interior and Local Government Secretary Jose D. Lina Jr. (2nd from right), Tony Melville of the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID)(2nd from left) and Muntinlupa City Mayor Jaime Fresnedi (left) lead the cutting of the ribbon during the recent inauguration of the P4.5 M-worth Social Development Center in Muntinlupa City, as part ofthe Australian-assisted Street and Urban Working Children Project(SUWCP) under the DILG. The center will serve as a "drop-in" center or temporary shelter for SUWC-beneficiaries under the program.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT CENTERS (SDCs)

	Cities	Location	% Completion
1.	Naga	City Hall Complex	97.0 %
2.	Legazpi	Bgy. Capuntawan	72.4 %
3.	Iloilo	M.H. Del Pilar St., Bgy. San Pedro, Molo	99.0 %
4.	Cagayan de Oro	Sitio Macanhan, Bgy. Carmen	97.31 %
5.	Lapu-Lapu	City Hall Complex, Bgy. Pusok	55.0 %
6.	Mandaue	Burgos St., Bgy. Centro	77.54 %
7.	Cotabato	R.H. Mother Barangay Don T.V. Juliano Avenue	84.16%
8	Baguio	Bgy. Irisan	Pre-implementation activities Completed
9.	Makati	Malolos cor. Bamsoain Sts. Bgy. Tejeros	Pre-implementation activities Completed
10.	Quezon	Diamond Hills Subd., Bgy. Payatas	Pre-implementation activities Completed
11.	Las Piñas	City Hall Compound	Pre-implementation activities Completed
12.	General Santos	Zapote St.	Pre-implementation activities Completed

We must rebuild badly damaged electoral system

From page A1

ship" coming from the middle forces would be an alternative to a Leftist or Rightist power grab has been interpreted by the jittery administration as a Morse code for a junta. Teodoro Benigno, who claims authorship of the concept, can't blame others for making this interpretation because of his ambiguous formulation.

A phony debate has developed from the narrow issue of whether Benigno's concept is a disguise for a junta. To my mind, the jittery reaction to the visit of the Freedom Force delegation to Cardinal Sin misses an important symptom. The nervousness emphatically underlines the fragility of Philippine democracy and, more importantly, the need to repair the heavily damaged electoral system and to go back to it as the most important basis for legitimacy of our democratic government. The notion of collective leadership from the middle forces as a buffer between the Left and the Right is unrealistic and should be rejected.

It should be rejected because it is an action outside the electoral system and, worse, it invites adventurism by not only the military or the Left but also impatient and mischievous "civil society groups disenchanted with a sitting government.

Two of these messianic groups with an inflated sense of their power to change governments they don't like are the Council for Public Affairs (Copa) and the People's Consultative Assembly (PCA). It has to be made clear that Copa is not the motive power behind Benigno's middle forces and collective leadership concept. But Copa is seeking cover behind the formulations of Benigno because of his credibility. He is being manipulated by other parties whose political interests could be promoted by political instability and proliferation of coup scenarios.

What is badly needed today is to repair the electoral system as the basis for the enduring legitimacy of a government. The electoral system has been sidelined and has been severely damaged by two people power upheavals in 15 years. The 1986 Edsa uprising and People Power II of January 2001, regardless of the causes of the upheavals, were extra-electoral means of transferring state power and changing governments. The political change was also highlighted by military intervention, which was critical in the success of people's movements in the streets.

The Aquino revolutionary administration that followed the overthrow of the Marcos administration was legitimized by a subsequent referendum on a democratic constitution. The oath-taking of Gloria Macapagal Arroyo as president after the military withdrew support from the Estrada administration was legitimized by the Supreme Court. This legitimization does not, however, conceal the fact that these changes were extra-electoral (some call these extra-constitutional). It makes even more emphatic the need to go back to the electoral process to provide a more stable basis for legitimacy and for our democracy.

The Freedom Force concept, with its collateral collective leadership apparatus, obstructs the path of rebuilding institutions and the electoral system. It considers as a given the emergence of a third force following a social explosion. This third force, as well as the emergence of a collective leadership from the middle forces, is a mythical construct. In the struggle between the Left and the Right, might wins and the probable outcome is a military dictatorship or a junta which will have no use for well-meaning but quixotic dreamers like Benigno or adventurists like Copa and other disgruntled former allies in the popular movement that campaigned for the resignation of Estrada. They will be discarded. This is why a collective leadership springing from middle forces with democratic tendencies and disregarding election as a method of political leadership change is a formula that flirts with military intervention and adventurism.

I don't believe Philippine democracy, fragile as it is now, can survive another people power upheaval or extra-electoral method of changing government. The best guarantee for the middle forces to survive a clash between the Left and the Right and to be a significant force in our democracy is to rechannel their activities toward rebuilding our badly damaged electoral system.

If the Freedom Force seeks to strengthen the middle ground of our politics, it has to redirect its effort toward aggregating its supporters behind a political party. This would also lead to the reformation of the weakened party system what has been truncated by the Marcos single-party regime and the highly personalistic politics of Estrada.

The rebuilding of the electoral regime and the party system requires, of course, good governance. For without good governance, there will always be a furnace of unrest, especially among the poor who can be exploited to mobilize for mass action seeking to overthrow a government, no matter whether it is legitimized by the Supreme Court.

The question before the Freedom Force, groups riding on it for political opportunism, and the legal opposition is whether they can tolerate the Macapagal administration until the 2004 elections. The administration is far from being the best we ever had.

Evidence indicates that the administration has not yet committed scandalously outrageous acts that can drive people to the streets to change it or the military to consider intervention. Given these, there are higher stakes for our democracy to rebuild the electoral system than creating extra-electoral third force movements. If during the past 15 years, people power has tended to become a habit to force leadership change, so has military intervention. The restoration of the electoral formula as the foundation for legitimacy serves a higher interest than capricious change of government. It is in fact also a return to institutions as the foundation for a stable democracy.

Dream
-of a successful career.
-of a bright future.

Believe
-In what you can achieve.
-In a good education.

Enjoy
-the campus life.
-the company of friends.

APPROVED BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR ITS TITLE IV PROGRAM.

CONDUCTS CLERKSHIP PROGRAMS WITH THE PENINSULA HOSPITAL CENTER, NEW YORK AND JACKSON PARK HOSPITAL, CHICAGO.

RANKED 2ND IN THE PRC REPORT (AS PER 1996 - 50 TO 100 GRADUATES)

LEVEL II ACCREDITATION STATUS BY PACU-COA

ONE OF ONLY FOUR MARITIME NCR COLLEGES INCLUDED IN IMO WHITE LIST.

AWARDED ISO 9002 CERTIFICATE FROM THE AMERICAN BUREAU OF SHIPPING.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR ALL COURSES INCLUDING FREE BOARD & LODGING, BOOKS & ALLOWANCE.

Find out how you can make your dreams come true. Ask your guidance counselor about Our Lady of Fatima College. Or, contact us at the numbers below and visit our website at www.fatima.com.ph

OUR LADY OF FATIMA COLLEGE
FATIMA MEDICAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION, INC.

Quezon City Campus Hilltop Subdivision, Lagro, Novaliches
Tel. Nos.: 935-2947, 419-1288, 419-1291

Valenzuela Campus 120 McArthur Highway, Valenzuela, Metro Manila
Tel. Nos.: 291-6644, 293-2703 to 06, 291-6556 Fax: 291-6504
e-mail: admissions@fatima.edu.ph

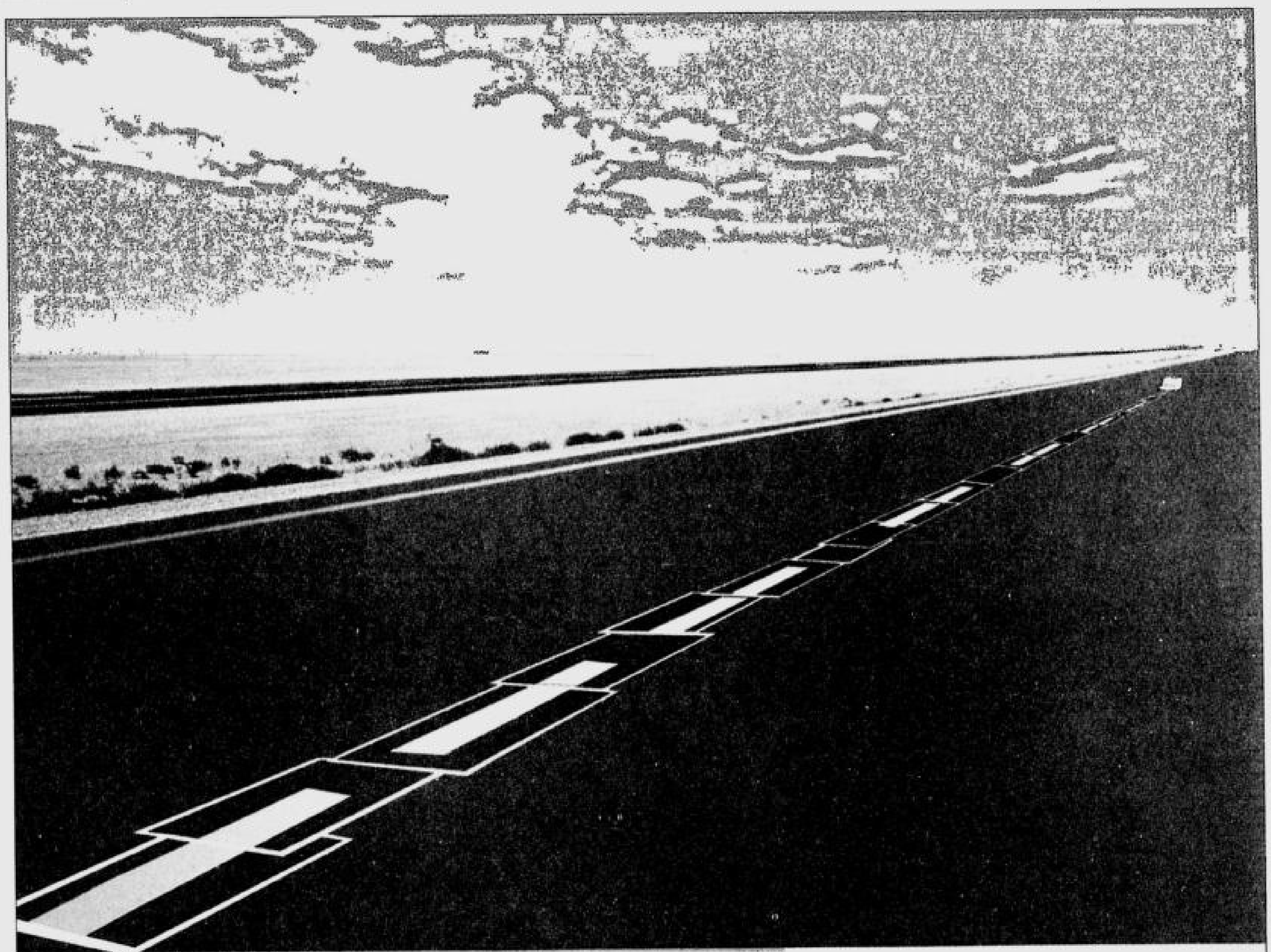
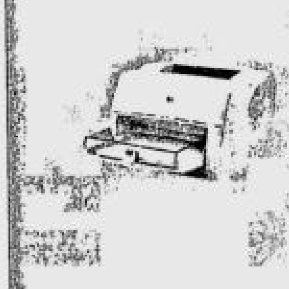
OUR LADY OF FATIMA COLLEGE IS PROUD OF THE FOLLOWING OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS.

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE
1st place DUMLAO, Amapola B.
2nd place CARREON, Carlo Rodrigo S.
6th place LACSAMANA, Jocel J.
COLLEGE OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
4th place LABAO, Hernan C.
12th place PASSION, Mark U.
18th place SARTORIO, Ethel John C.
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
8th place FORTUNO, Jocel L.
COLLEGE OF NURSING
18th place RULE, Ma. Elena T.
COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY
95.6% passing average in the last 3 years.
HOTEL & RESTAURANT MANAGEMENT
2nd place Culinary Grand Prix

NOW ACCEPTING FRESHMEN & TRANSFEREES FOR ALL COURSES.

CURRICULAR OFFERINGS
Doctor of Medicine
Doctor of Dental Medicine
Physical Therapy
Occupational Therapy
Nursing
Zoology
Biology
Psychology
Nutrition & Dietetics
Pulmonary/Respiratory Therapy
Pharmacy
Medical Technology
Midwifery
Hotel & Restaurant Management
Tourism
Computer Science
Computer Technology
Marine Transportation
Marine Engineering
Seafarer's Rating Course
Criminology
MASTER OF ARTS IN:
Education
Nursing
Teaching+
Public Health
Business Administration+
Public Administration+
+Non-thesis

APPLICANTS NEED ONLY P1,500 DEPOSIT TO ENROLL NOW IN ANY COURSE (EXCEPT MEDICINE & DENTISTRY)
OUR LADY OF FATIMA COLLEGE
FATIMA MEDICAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION, INC.



Print more.

When it comes to the HP LaserJet 1000, you're assured of top-speed, high-resolution print-outs and office reliability all the way. It's one of the most reasonably-priced professional quality printers around with a 250-sheet input tray. Plus its USB connectivity gives you maximum productivity, so you not only save more, you get to print more.

From April 2 to May 31, 2002, you get a free LaserJet print cartridge C7115A each time you buy a LaserJet 1000. So visit your HP dealer and order your own unit today!

hp invent

www.hp.com

ABC Computer 721-4960 / 722-0370 / 722-5151 • Accent Micro Products 636-3563 • Asianic 743-3650 / 781-8245 to 47 • CBX Corporation - Cebu (032) 346-1461 to 63 • Columbia Group of Companies 523-9346 to 56 / 564-1841 • Compex 743-0032 / 711-0288 / 711-0129 • Complink Marketing 632-9696 / 632-9897 • Electroworld 816-6371 / 892-6344 / 892-6324 • Electroworld - VISMIN (032) 345-2787 to 89 • Lenton Marketing - Cebu (032) 254-6256 • NT Computer 927-2579 • Office 1 Superstore 890-5151 • PC Express 725-4383 / 725-4385 / 725-4387 • Premium Logic 721-2407 / 725-5997 / 724-8391 • ProData 439-6236 / 439-6234 / 911-4619 • Silicon Valley 371-5611 to 20 • Starapple 815-3236 / 844-3979 / 811-1667 • The Computer Authority 637-1200 • Thinking Tool, Inc. - Cebu (032) 254-2227 • Total Quality Machines 526-4503 • Villman Computer System, Inc. 929-0411 to 12

Per DTI - NCR Permit No. 0597, Series of 2002.

US military chief visits American troops in Basilan

From page A1

The US general, who arrived in the Philippines on Friday, flew to Zamboanga City aboard a US aircraft early Sunday before traveling to Basilan aboard a Pave Hawk helicopter.

Myers on Saturday warned that the al-Qaida, blamed for the Sept. 11 terror attacks in the United States, was on the lookout for new bases, possibly also in Southeast Asia, where experts had earlier said it had penetrated Muslim radical groups in the Philippines, Malaysia and Indonesia.

He appealed yesterday for continuous support in the war against the al-Qaida network.

"We just got to be vigilant. This is a very bad terrorist network that needs to be destroyed wherever they are. We will do our best to disrupt them and ensure that they cannot bring harm to the innocent civilians, on our children and our grandchildren," he said.

Myers, wearing a jungle camouflage uniform, also held a closed-door meeting with Cimatu and Zamboanga City Mayor Maria Clara Lobregat.

US ambassador

Filipino and US soldiers threw a tight security net around Myers, who was accompanied by Brig. Gen. Donald Wurster, commander of the US contingent, and US Ambassador Francis Ricciardone.

Myers refused to elaborate on his discussions with US advisers and Filipino military officials.

"I don't want to get into specifics such as the tactical operations. Let's just say it's the responsibility of the AFP. We are here only to advise and assist in any way that we are asked for to do so," he said.

Even Cimatu did not talk about the progress of the rescue operations. "I'm not ready to discuss this for the moment," he said.

Maj. Gen. Glicerio Sua, chief of the Task Force Comet, could not say when the American couple would be freed. Thousands of Philippine troops have been scouring the hills of Basilan and Sulu since May last year.

Extension

On the extension of the six-month Balikatan 02-1 in Basilan, Myers said both the US and the Philippine government were still evaluating it.

GEN. Richard Myers is briefed by a ground commander during his visit to a road construction project in Tabiawan, Isabela, Basilan. VAL HANDUMON

"It's premature to say that there's going to be an extension of the ongoing exercise at this time. All of that is being looked at as we proceed to the event that we came here to accomplish," Myers said before departing for South Korea and Japan from the Edwin Andrews Airbase here.

Myers left at 11:45 a.m., Lt. Col. Jose Mabanta, AFP public information chief, told defense reporters yesterday.

He left the country, bringing with him the hopes of Filipino military leaders that the United States will help in the modernization of the AFP.

Myers met with the AFP top brass on Saturday. "(They discussed) US support in the modernization of the armed forces. This is one way the US can show its (appreciation) of the Philippines for heeding its call against international terrorism," Mabanta said.

Lt. Gen. Narciso Abaya, acting AFP spokesperson, said Myers was briefed on the threats and state of the AFP's logistics and mobility problems, including airlift and sea patrol capability.

Abaya said Myers did not really comment much when briefed about the needs of the Philippine military.

"He asked questions about terrorism on the regional context . . . He was informed of the recent arrest of Indonesian terrorists (and) he expressed appreciation for the country's stand against terrorism and commitment (to support) US efforts to combat terrorism," Abaya said. ***With a report from AP***

Palace defends May 1 security plan

From page A1

instigating last year's riots, urban poor leader and Estrada supporter Ronald Lumbao. Lumbao remains in a police hospital.

Senior Supt. Leonardo Espina, PNP spokesperson, said Lumbao was brought to the PNP General Hospital on Friday after complaining of chest pains.

Doctors, Espina told defense reporters, later found that Lumbao had high blood pressure. Asked if Lumbao would be confined to the hospital like Estrada, Espina said that it would depend on the courts.

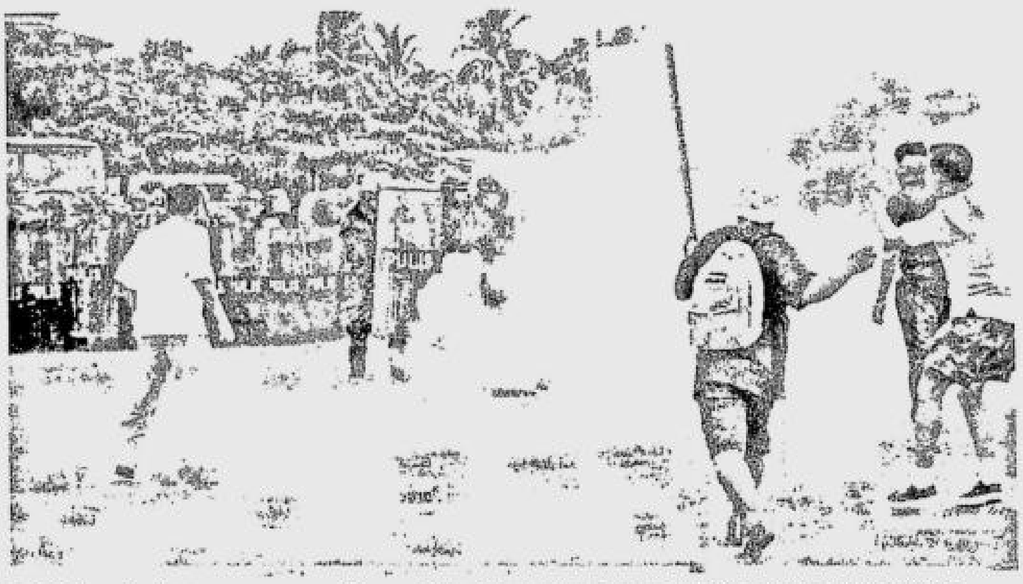
The confinement of Lumbao came as the PNP prepared for the coming May 1 holidays.

Afable said that the Cabinet Oversight Committee on Internal Security had not discussed any worst-case scenario for Wednesday.

"We think it will be a peaceful day and we will undertake all measures to make it peaceful," Afable said.

Advisers of President Macapagal-Arroyo have grudgingly admitted that the rallies were a barometer of frustration in a nation where 45 percent of the population earns just $2 a day.

And with economic growth slowing to 3.4 percent last year, the scourge of poverty shows no sign of improving.



POLICE anti-riot troops prepare for possible violent May 1 protest rallies at the Rizal Park in Manila. ERIK ARAZAS

"High unemployment and population growth, combined with low-income growth, suggest that the incidence and severity of poverty in the Philippines remained relatively unchanged in 2001," said Thomas Crouch, Asian Development Bank country director.

A World Bank report released in February said the Philippine economy needed to grow at least 5 percent annually for the country to make headway against poverty.

Ms Macapagal has worked hard to improve the nation's finances, reining in a runaway budget deficit and winning credit upgrades from global rating agencies Standard & Poor's and Moody's Investors Service.

But investment has been slow in coming, with security problems proving to be part of a vicious cycle hampering anti-poverty efforts.

Poverty has driven new recruits to communist rebels who are enjoying a minor resurgence in their 33-year insurgency.

And kidnap gangs continue to run riot in Mindanao where Muslim separatist rebels are active.

But despite the poverty, the President still appears to be maintaining popular support.

Her approval rating was a respectable 48 percent in March, down slightly from 53 percent in October, according to a survey by the independent polling agency, Social Weather Stations (SWS).

Estrada's rating stood at 31 percent.

"Political support for the administration remains healthy, with no sign of transfer of public sympathy to the opposition," the SWS said. ***Reports from Carlito Pablo, Martin P. Marfil and AFP***

NY Times . . .

From page A1

issued any order for the Pentagon to mobilize its forces, and there is no official plan for an invasion, the newspaper said.

For years, official US policy has been to work for a "regime change" in Iraq. Since the Sept. 11 strikes, which exposed America's vulnerability to attack, the Bush administration has repeatedly said it has to act to prevent the possibility of Baghdad using weapons of mass destruction. The statements have caused unease among many European and Arab nations.

The Times reported the use of American or combined allied forces became a possibility after two alternate scenarios were rejected. The White House concluded a coup in Iraq would be unlikely to succeed and a proxy battle using local forces there would be insufficient to bring a change in power.

"There have been at least six coup attempts in the 1990s, and they consistently fail," an administration official told the Times.

Dissident Iraqi military officers "sent signals to us. 'We're ready for a coup,' and the next thing you know these guys are murdered or it fails or people have cold feet at the end and leave the country," he said. "It's a horrific police state. Nobody trusts anyone, so how can you pull off a coup?"

The Times reported the timing of early next year delay resulted from a need "to create the right military, economic and diplomatic conditions. These include avoiding summer combat in bulky chemical suits, preparing for a global oil price shock, and waiting until there is progress toward ending the Israeli-Palestinian conflict."

Former President George Bush, the current US leader's father, launched an attack on Iraq in 1991 to drive its invading forces out of Kuwait but he concluded the war without toppling Saddam.

One question to be answered in the current planning is the extent of expected cooperation from Saudi Arabia. The Pentagon has been working on the assumption it might have to carry out any military action without the use of US bases in the kingdom, the Times reported.

The planning anticipates the possible use of bases in Turkey and Kuwait for US forces while Qatar would be the replacement for the air operations center in Saudi Arabia.

According to the Times, there are conflicting views of the diplomatic impact, with Vice President Dick Cheney, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld and their senior aides feeling that "Arab leaders would publicly protest but secretly celebrate Mr. Hussein's downfall."

The other view, held at the State Department and among some at the White House, is that "efforts to topple Mr. Hussein would be viewed by Arabs as a confrontation with Islam, destabilizing the entire region and complicating the broader campaign against Osama bin Laden and his network, al-Qaida," which Washington blames for the September attacks, the newspaper reported. ***Reuters***

Noli virtually accuses Loren . . .

From page A1

Both De Castro and Legarda are former top news anchors of ABS-CBN, the country's largest TV network. They also topped their respective Senate races, Legarda in 1998 and De Castro in 2001.

"I was really surprised when I heard . . . the news that Senator Legarda was the one who negotiated for (De la Cruz's) release through the efforts of Prof. (Mashur Bin Ghalib) Jundam," De Castro told Senate reporters yesterday.

When the chartered executive plane landed in Manila last Saturday with De la Cruz on board, not a few Senate observers expected to see De Castro in the party. Three weeks ago, on April 8, De Castro had given reporters an update on the kidnapping, saying he had been trying to get her released through the help of Jundam.

Who should step out of the plane first on Saturday, however, but Legarda?

De Castro could hardly hide his disappointment yesterday, saying Legarda did not even send word to him that she had finally been able to negotiate the 32-year-old reporter's release.

He also noted that Legarda used the same intermediary, Jundam, in securing the release of De la Cruz. He said Jundam's calls to him ended "abruptly" right after his April 8 press briefing.

"I learned that right after the press con, (Jundam) was contacted by Senator Legarda so that she could also help in working for the release of Arlyn," he said. De Castro continues to host a weekly magazine show for ABS-CBN, while Legarda has appeared in TV commercials.

LEGARDA

DE CASTRO

Another former ABS-CBN talent joined the casting call yesterday. Cavite Rep. Gilbert Remulla proposed a joint Senate and House inquiry into the case, saying military commanders may have had a hand in her abduction. ***(See related story.)***

Friendly persuasion

De Castro also said he doubted Legarda's claim that De la Cruz was released by her captors through "*himas-himas*" (friendly persuasion) exercised by Legarda's team of negotiators.

De Castro said he also received the reports that "money changed hands" which circulated after the reporter's release. The reports allege that a P2-million ransom was paid.

"I can't believe that Arlyn was released without any other consideration. And because of this, I suspect that ransom was paid," he said.

Despite being left out of the picture, De Castro nevertheless said he was "happy that there was a positive result because (De la Cruz) was released safely and without harm (to her)."

In his April 8 briefing, De Castro had shown reporters what he said was the most recent photo of De la Cruz, as well as the first page of a two-page letter in which De la Cruz described her ordeal.

He also said then that De la Cruz may soon be set free after her abductors agreed to drastically reduce their ransom demand from P10 million to only P1.5 million. De Castro even said that the ransom could be settled in installments of P500,000. ***With a report from Christine Avendaño***

AFP probes raps . . .

From page A1

gation of De la Cruz's claims. "These allegations . . . will be investigated and we will bring this to the attention of the MNLF," he said. "I'm sure that the (Department of Interior and Local Government) and the local government there (Sulu) headed by Gov. Yusof Jikiri . . . will conduct their own investigation." He did not say whether these investigations would be consolidated.

Cimatu irked

Cimatu looked irked at some of the questions in the press briefing. He said Dela Cruz's charges were very serious, but the military still needed to know exactly who her captors were. On Saturday, Dela Cruz said she knew her kidnappers' names, but begged off from identifying them until after talking to her family and the leaders of the Iglesia ni Cristo, the religious congregation to which she belongs.

But Cimatu was clear about the consequences for AFP members involved in the Dela Cruz kidnapping. "These alleged erring military personnel will face not only administrative sanctions but criminal liabilities as well," he said.

Yesterday, Sua backtracked from his earlier pronouncement about the need to conduct a loyalty check among former rebels integrated into the Armed Forces.

"But it would be best if Dela Cruz could provide us the necessary details. She knows best because she got all the information and she has been in captivity for about three months. Her information could provide us more leads." Sua told the Inquirer.

Dela Cruz was released on Saturday, at the boundary of Indanan and Patikul towns in Sulu, after 98 days in captivity. Sen. Loren Legarda, who fetched Dela Cruz in a chartered aircraft, said she and University of the Philippines Professor Mashur Bin Ghalib Jundam had negotiated the broadcast reporter's "unconditional" release.

Dela Cruz said that some of her abductors still regularly draw their salaries from the AFP and that from time to time, they also report to their respective postings in Cotabato City and Sulu.

"Their right foot is inside the military and their left foot is inside a new rebellion. It's like AFP is their mistress but their legal wife is the rebellion," she said after her release.

Third parties

Afable, whose main job is heading the Presidential Management Staff, said Malacañang did not mind not having been informed by the "third parties" involved in Dela Cruz's release.

"We were really more concerned about going after the Abu Sayyaf and the kidnappings in Mindanao," Afable said. "I mean, Malacañang does not have knowledge of all the negotiations going on."

Afable said he talked with AFP chief Gen. Diomedio Villanueva, who told him that the military was "never involved in this negotiation . . . since the beginning."

"Sometimes these are done by third parties, and like in this case, the Armed Forces was not involved so if the Armed Forces was not involved, they have no basis to report to Malacañang," Afable said. "So nothing was reported to our level."

Afable rejected suggestions by the opposition to revamp the AFP Southern Command because of its supposed failure to stop the spate of kidnappings in Mindanao.

"There have been no initiatives either from the AFP or the defense department pointing to a recommended revamp of the Southcom, so there is no reason for Malacañang to act on this issue," he said.

In the House of Representatives, a former broadcast journalist called for a joint Senate and House inquiry into Dela Cruz's allegations. "We should not just search from the surface," former ABS-CBN reporter and now Cavite Rep. Gilbert Remulla said in a statement. "We should really probe deeper into Arlyn's case and find out who masterminded her abduction."

Remulla, the assistant minority leader, said there was reason to believe that the military could have been involved in Dela Cruz's abduction. He noted what he said was a "consistent and well-orchestrated campaign to destroy her credibility as a journalist."

If integrees from the Moro National Liberation Front, who are now part of the AFP, were really the ones who took her, Remulla said, then "I can only conclude that this was part of an orchestrated effort to destroy Arlyn's reputation in an attempt to hide the men who are really responsible for her abduction." ***With a report from Christine Avendaño***

WOW PHILIPPINES

TOUR PACKAGES FOR SUMMER

On the occasion of the 100th year celebration of Labor Day,

free WOW PHILIPPINES t-shirts & caps

await the first 100 local residents to avail of any of these packages.

MAY 1 ONLY!
✓ Free entrance to Intramuros (Fort Santiago/Casa Manila Museum)
✓ 50% off on entrance fee at Pook ni Maria Makiling, Los Baños, Laguna

Fiesta na sa 'min!

PAHIYAS/- P1,200.00
DAY TOUR (15 May, Quezon)
Inclusions:
- 1 lunch, 2 snacks
- Day tour to festival
- Private transportation
- Services of a tour guide
- Souvenir

PARADA NG LECHON - P1,388.00
DAY TOUR (24 June, Balayan, Batangas)
Inclusions:
- 2 snacks on board, buffet lunch
- Roundtrip transfers by airconditioned motorcoach
- Tour of Taal town and a visit to the Shrine of Our Lady Mary Mediatrix of all Grace (Lipa City)
- Services of a licensed tour guide
- Souvenir

BOLIBONG KINGKING FESTIVAL - P3,200.00
3D/2N, (22-24 May, Loboc, Bohol)
Inclusions:
- 3 days, 2 nights at a city hotel or resort
- 2 breakfasts
- Full day tour
- Roundtrip airport transfers

TACLOBAN PINTADOS FESTIVAL - P3,500.00
3D/2N, (28-30 June, Tacloban City)
Inclusions:
- 3 days, 2 nights at Leyte Park Hotel
- 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners
- Roundtrip airport transfers
- City tour with drinks

MUDPACK FESTIVAL - P4,200.00
3D/2N, (23-25 June, Murcia, Negros Occidental)
Inclusions:
- 3 days, 2 nights at a lodge
- 2 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 2 dinners
- Roundtrip onsite airport transfers
- Tour of Bacolod and Silay Cities
- Entrance fees
- Services of a tour guide and coordinator
- Participation in the body painting ritual
- Participation in the after - dinner concert of local bands

DAET PINYASAN FESTIVAL - P5,200.00
3D/2N, (22-24 June, Daet, Camarines Norte)
Inclusions:
- 3 days, 2 nights at Dolor or Canimog Hotel
- 2 set breakfasts, 2 set lunches, 2 set dinners
- Roundtrip public bus transportation (Philtranco)
- Tour to Pinyasan Festival - street dancing, fashion show, beauty pageant, agro-industrial and tourism fair
- Day tour of Daet-Bagasbas Beach, Pineapple plantation, first Rizal Monument

BANTAYAN-PALAWOD FESTIVAL
3D/2N, (28-29 June, Bantayan Island, Cebu)
Non-aircon room - P1,288.00
Aircon room - P1,990.00
Inclusions:
- 3 days, 2 nights at a hotel
- 2 breakfasts
- Roundtrip airport transfers

Overnight Tayo!

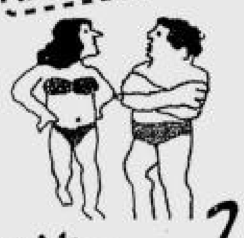
RESORT	WEEKDAY RATE	WEEKEND RATE
Eagle Point (Batangas)	P1,700.00/person	P1,750.00/person
Grand Season Subic	P1,750.00/person	P1,850.00/person
Holiday Inn Clark (Pampanga)	P1,350.00/person	P1,350.00/person
Island Cove (Cavite)	P1,250.00/person	P1,450.00/person
Matabungkay (Batangas)	P1,000.00/person	P1,100.00/person
Montemar (Bataan)	P1,400.00/person	P2,000.00/person
Punta Baluarte (Batangas)	P1,500.00/person	P2,750.00/person

Inclusions:
- Accommodations based on twin sharing
- Set breakfasts

WOW Excursions!

- Bulacan Historical Tour - P1,600.00/person
- Cavite-Batangas Historical Tour -P1,990.00/person
- Caylabne - P1,900.00/person
- Corregidor - P650.00/person
  Overnight: P1,690/person
  (Optional Tour: Light & Sound Show - P150/person)
  (Optional lunch: P430/person)
- Island Cove - P1,350.00/person
- Quezon Province Culinary Tour - P1,600.00/person
- Rizal-Laguna Cottage Industry/Craft Tour - P1,702.00/person
- Villa Escudero - P2,100.00/person

Inclusions:
- Private aircon transport/ferry ride to Corregidor
- Services of a guide or a coordinator
- Set lunch
- Entrance Fees



Kung Balikan...?

BACOLOD - P1,400.00 3D/2N
Inclusions:
- 3 days/2 nights at a hotel
- 2 breakfasts
- Roundtrip airport transfers

Optional Sights & Activities: City Tour, Silay Heritage Tour

BAGUIO - P2,808.00 3D/2N
Inclusions:
- 3 days/2 nights at El Cielito Inn
- 2 breakfasts
- City tour

Optional Sights & Activities: Mines View Park, Silver Shop, Burnham Park and local market

Inspiring Baguio - P5,980.00 3D/2N
with private transportation

BANAUE - P1,750.00 3D/2N
Inclusions:
- 3 days/2 nights at Banaue Hotel
- 2 breakfasts
- Viewpoint and Hiwang Tour

Optional Sights & Activities: Bango-an Village, Batad Village, Bontoc & Sagada

Weekend Seat-in-Coach Package
(including Transportation)
also available:
3D/2N = P4,808.00/person
4D/3N = P6,950.00/person w/Sagada

BICOL
Daet	- P1,750.00 3D/2N
Legazpi w/City Tour	- P3,504.00 3D/2N
Donsol, Sorsogon With Whaleshark Interaction	- P5,299.00 3D/2N

Inclusions:
- 3 days/2 nights at a hotel
- 2 breakfasts
- Roundtrip bus terminal transfers

BOHOL
Balicasag Island Dive Resort - P2,850.00 3D/2N
Inclusions:
- 3 days/2 nights at Balicasag Island Dive Resort
- 2 breakfasts
- Roundtrip Tagbilaran-Balicasag Island transfers

Optional Sights & Activities: St. Joseph Cathedral, Bohol National Museum, Torralba Market

Bohol with Chocolate Hills - P3,699.00 3D/2N
Inclusions:
- 3 days/2 nights at a resort
- 2 breakfasts
- Roundtrip airport transfers
- Bohol countryside and Chocolate Hills tour with lunch on River Cruise

BORACAY
Red Coconut	- P3,200.00 3D/2N
Pink Patio	- P3,200.00 3D/2N
Boracay GoldCrown	- P3,333.00 3D/2N
Lorenzo Main (aircon)	- P3,390.00 3D/2N
Willy's	- P4,000.00 3D/2N
Sea Wind	- P4,400.00 3D/2N
Waling-Waling	- P4,695.00 3D/2N
Boracay Regency	- P5,000.00 3D/2N

Inclusions:
- 3 days/2 nights at a resort
- 2 breakfasts
- Roundtrip transfers

Optional Sights & Activities: Island hopping and scuba diving

CAGAYAN DE ORO
Lauremar Beach/VIP Hotel	-P1,450.00 3D/2N
Southwind/Dynasty	-P1,680.00 3D/2N
Malasag Gardens	-P2,028.00 3D/2N

Inclusions:
- 3 days/2 nights at a hotel or resort
- 2 set breakfasts
- Roundtrip airport transfers

Optional Sights & Activities: Whitewater River rafting, Canopy walk, Malasag Gardens, Del Monte Plantation, River Tubing, Camiguin Island Extension, Duka Bay Dive

CAMIGUIN - P5,500.00 3D/2N
Eco-dev & Homestay
Inclusions:
- 3 days/2 nights (1 night homestay /1 night at a resort)
- 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, and 2 dinners
- Roundtrip transfers either from/to Camiguin airstrip (SEAIR) or from/to Benoni Wharf
- Full day tours including Cultural Interaction, Demo on cassava puto making, tablea chocolate, Nito handicraft, Coconut oil, Corn feeds, and others.
- Island tours - Trek to Tuasan Falls, Sunken cemetery, Church ruins, Stations of the Cross

CEBU
Tambuli East	- P2,500.00 3D/2N
Maribago	- P3,900.00 3D/2N
Waterfront Cebu City	- P4,000.00 3D/2N
Bantayan Island	
Non aircon room	-P1,050.00 3D/2N
Aircon room	-P1,958.00 3D/2N

Inclusions:
- 3 days/2 nights at a hotel or resort
- 2 breakfasts
- Roundtrip airport transfers

DAVAO - P2,300.00 3D/2N
Inclusions:
- 3 days/2 nights at Barcelo Pearl Farm or Waterfront Insular
- 2 breakfasts
- Roundtrip airport transfers

Optional Sights & Activities: Aldevinco, Davao Museum, Crocodile Farm, San Pedro Church, public market

DUMAGUETE - P2,000.00 3D/2N
Inclusions:
- 3 days/2 nights at a hotel
- 2 breakfasts
- Roundtrip airport transfers

Optional Sights & Activities: Dolphin watching in Bais City

ILOILO - P1,200.00 3D/2N
Inclusions:
- 3 days/2 nights at Barcelo Sarabia Manor or similar hotel
- 2 breakfasts
- Roundtrip airport transfers

Optional Sights & Activities: City tour

LAOAG
Land Arrangement	- P2,850.00 3D/2N
With airfare	- P3,690.00 3D/2N
	- P4,190.00 4D/3N

Optional tours:

Vigan tour	- P750.00
Pagudpud tour	- P750.00
Laoag tour	- P650.00

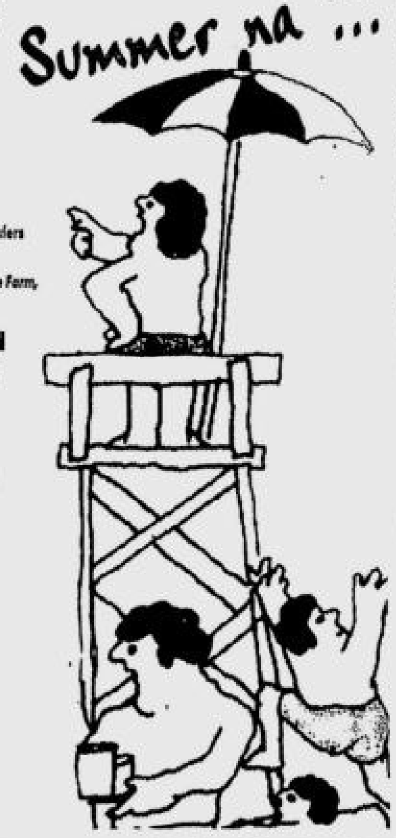
Inclusions:
- Accommodations
- Breakfasts

LEYTE
Enchanted Eastern Visayas
Mac Arthur Park Hotel
P1,650.00 3D/2N
Marabut/Sohoton Adventure
P3,700.00 3D/2N

Inclusions:
- 3 days/2 nights at a hotel
- 2 breakfasts
- Roundtrip airport transfers

Optional Sights & Activities: Sohoton Cave, Marabut Marine Park, Sto. Niño Shrine and public market

MARINDUQUE - P1,900.00 3D/2N
Sea, Sand & Spa
Inclusions:
- 3 days/2 nights at a hotel
- 2 breakfasts
- Roundtrip airport transfers
- Whole day tour with lunch at Gaspar Island, Sulphur Springs and Susana Hot Springs



MINDORO, PUERTO GALERA
Coco Beach	- P3,188.00 3D/2N
White Beach	
Non aircon room	-P2,820.00 3D/2N
Aircon room	-P3,850.00 3D/2N

Inclusions:
- 3 days/2 nights at a hotel or resort
- 2 breakfasts
- Roundtrip airconditioned tourist bus
- Roundtrip ferry service

PALAWAN
Club Paradise (Northern Palawan) P9,900.00 3D/2N
Inclusions:
- 3 days/2 nights at Club Paradise
- Full board meal
- Roundtrip transfers by land & boat from Busuanga
- 1 hour use of sit-in kayak

Club Noah's Ark Floating Inn - P5,450.00 3D/2N
Inclusions:
- 3 days/2 nights at Club Noah's Ark Floating Inn
- 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners
- Roundtrip boat transfers
- Complimentary house coffee or tea
- Resort programmed activities
- Use of marine sports and resort facilities
- Services of an activity coordinator

Coron - P6,400.00 3D/2N
Weekend Sailaway (Friday-Monday)
Inclusions:
- Roundtrip passage (2 nights on WG&A and 1 night at Dive Link)
- Full board meal
- On site transfers
- Coron Island tour, Kayangan Lake, Maquinit Hot Springs, Gutob Bay Island Hopping, Kayaking

Dos Palmas - P12,700.00 3D/2N
Inclusions:
- 3 days/2 nights at Dos Palmas
- 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners
- Roundtrip airfare via Air Philippines
- Welcome drink, scheduled roundtrip land and boat transfers (city-resort-city)
- Scheduled lunch nearby picnic sites
- Complimentary coffee or tea
- Speedboat transfer to snorkeling and picnic sites, use of facilities, snorkels, kayaks, fins, jacuzzi

El Nido Miniloc - P11,400.00 3D/2N
Inclusions:
- 3 days/2 nights at Garden/family or seaview rooms
- Full board meals
- Airport transfers

Puerto Princesa - P1,800.00 3D/2N
Inclusions:
- 3 days/2 nights at a hotel
- 2 breakfasts
- Roundtrip transfers

Optional Sights & Activities: Palawan Museum, Crocodile Farming Institute, city market, War Memorial, Cathedral, St. Paul Subterranean National Park

PAMPANGA - P3,950.00 3D/2N
Inclusions:
- 3 days/2 nights at a hotel
- 2 breakfasts
- Roundtrip transfers Manila/Clark/Manila
- Rolling Tour of Angeles City & Clark

Optional Sights & Activities: Mt. Pinatubo Eco Tour

PANGASINAN - P1,650.00 3D/2N
Inclusions:
- 3 days/2 nights at San Fabian Resort or Villa Jireh Resort Hotel
- 2 breakfasts

Optional Sights & Activities: Our Lady of Manaoag, Señor Divino Tesoro Church, Lingayen Gulf Memorial, Hundred Islands, swimming, shopping

ROXAS CITY - P1,650.00 3D/2N
Sea Food Capital
Inclusions:
- 3 days/2 nights at Bala Norte Beach Club
- 2 breakfasts
- Roundtrip airport transfers

Optional Sights & Activities: Ang Panublion, City Plaza, City Hall, Immaculate Concepcion Cathedral, Capitol Bldg., Roxas Display Center, Sta. Monica Church, Panay Bell

SUBIC BAY/OLONGAPO
P1,388.00 2D/1N
"Make it this Weekend"
- 2 days/1 night at Subic Int'l. Hotel - P1,388.00
- 3 days/2 nights at Subic Int'l. Hotel- P3,235.00

Inclusions:
- breakfast(s)
- Roundtrip airconditioned transportation
- Subic Base Tour, Shopping

SURIGAO - P1,050.00 3D/2N
Inclusions:
- 3 days/2 nights at Tavern or similar hotel
- 2 breakfasts
- Roundtrip transfers from Surigao Airport or bus terminal

Optional Sights & Activities: Siargao extension, Day-Asan Floating Village, Sagisi Island, Mabua Pebble Beach, Island hopping, Silop Caves

TUGUEGARAO - P5,000.00 2D/1N
Whitewater Kayaking and Rapelling
Inclusions:
- 2 days/1 night at a hotel
- 1 breakfast, 2 lunches, 1 dinner
- All equipment necessary (kayaks, rafts, helmets, lifevest)
- Travel insurance coverage of P100,000
- Transportation in and around Tuguegarao City

Optional Sights & Activities: Callao & Sierra Caves, Pinacanauan and Chico River Rapids, bat cave, whitewater kayaking, rapelling

ZAMBOANGA - P1,950.00 3D/2N
City of Flowers
Inclusions:
- 3 days/2 nights at a hotel
- 2 breakfasts
- Roundtrip airport transfers

Optional Sights & Activities: Taluksangay tour, Pasonanca Park, Rio Hondo Village, Fort Pilar, Yakan Weaving Village

Bookings and reservations must be coursed through the following PHILTOA Members only:

FLIGHT SHOP, INC.
Tel. 813-1951-55/810-0368
Email: flitshop@info.com.ph

T.R.I.P.S. TRAVEL
Tel. 811-4013/752-4772/811-4115
Email: trips@i-next.net

BARON TRAVEL CORP.
Tel. 817-4926
Email: inbound@barontravel.com.ph
Cebu Branch:
Tel. (032) 255-6095/96
Email: btc_inbound@pacific.net.ph

RAJAH TOURS PHILS., INC.
Tel. 523-0541-48
Email: sales@rajahtours.com.ph
Cebu Branch:
Tel. (032) 232-2113/232-0574
Email: rajahcebu@mozcom.com

MARSMAN TOURS & TRAVEL CORP.
Tel. 816-6498/893-3139
Email: tours@marsmandrysdale.com
Cebu Branch:
Tel. (032) 255-6297
Email: mttcebu@mozcom.com

SHARP TRAVEL SERVICES
Tel. 817-0071 - 74/817-0169
Email: sharptvl@pworld.net.ph

ANNSET HOLIDAYS, INC.
Tel. 400-6521 to 24
Email: annset@info.com.ph
EDSA Branch:
Tel. 721-3324/721-3340

ANSCOR TRAVEL CORP.
Tel. 810-2004/813-6537
Email: atc_cas@compass.com.ph

AVIAN TRAVEL
Tel. 911-6553/911-3963
Email: aviantil@info.com.ph

SOUTHEAST TRAVEL CORP.
Tel. 524-5676-86
Email: southeast@skyinet.net
Baguio Branch:
Tel. (074) 442-8034
Fax: (074) 521-2712

AFRO-ASIAN TRAVEL & TOURS
Tel. 523-7501/525-4374
Email: afroasiantvl@pacific.net.ph

BAYAN KO TOURS & TRAVEL
Tel. 534-8187/534-8220
Email: bayanko@mydestiny.net

HOUSE OF TRAVEL, INC.
Tel. 831-8801/832-0893
Email: hotinc@skyinet.net
Cagayan de Oro Branch:
Tel. (08822) 724195/723325
Fax: (08822) 738016
Davao Branch: Tel. (082) 234-0580 to 83
Fax: (082) 234-0581

BLUE HORIZONS TRAVEL & TOURS, INC.
Tel. 848-3901
Email: bhtti_inc@mozcom.com
Cebu Branch: Tel. (032) 254-0637 to 39
Email: bhorizon@mozcom.com

CORDYM TOURS & TRAVEL
Tel. 812-2610/893-1751
Email: trcordym@info.com.ph
Laoag Branch: Tel. (077) 772-1064
Telefax: (077) 772-1091

DANFIL EXPRESS, INC.
Tel. 400-5155/524-8703
Email: danfil@epic.net
Cebu Branch: Tel. (032) 346-7168/346-7169
Email: danfil@cebu.weblinq.com

G & S TRAVEL & TOURS, INC.
Tel. 636-0893/633-2407
Email: gnstrav@guevent.com

PAN PACIFIC TRAVEL CORP.
Tel. 525-5611 - 14
Email: panpac@philonline.com
Cebu Branch:
Tel. (032) 254-0347/254-0343
Email: panpac@mozcom.com

MORNING STAR TRAVEL & TOURS
Tel. 526-1111/521-6346
Email: mstgm@mkt.weblinq.com
Cebu Branch:
Tel. (032) 233-8263
Email: mostar@cebu.weblinq.com

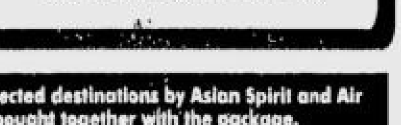
TRAVEL EDGE
Tel. 772-3555
Email: trvledge@info.com.ph

TOUR SPECTRUM, INC.
Tel. 867-4440-43/893-0384
Email: tourspectrum@netasia.net

PHILTOA
Tel. 812-4513/817-4608
Email: philtoa@i-next.net

1. *For local residents only.*
2. *Package rates DO NOT INCLUDE TRANSPORTATION to and from the destination by air, land or sea except as indicated.*
3. *PACKAGE RATES ARE VALID UNTIL DECEMBER 2002.*
4. *Special discounts applied to students.*
5. *Rate per person based on TWIN SHARING (2 in a room with 2 breakfasts).*

Travel now, pay later!
on easy installment terms with your
BPI Express Credit
and BPI MasterCard



BPI Credit Cards

A project of :

PHILIPPINE CONVENTION & VISITORS CORPORATION

Supported by:

PHILTOA
BPI Credit Cards
Asian Spirit
Air Philippines
Philtranco HOLIDAYS
WG&A PHILIPPINES

10% off on airfare offered on selected destinations by Asian Spirit and Air Philippines if roundtrip ticket is bought together with the package.

To avail of the discount, contact any of the PHILTOA Members in the list.

Huwag Maging Dayuhan sa Sariling Bayan! • www.wowphilippines.com.ph

Hornets, Kings, Spurs move up

ORLANDO, Florida—Baron Davis finished with a triple-double and scored nine of his 33 points in overtime, and the Charlotte Hornets beat the Orlando Magic, 110-100, for a 2-1 lead in their first-round playoff series.

Davis appeared to have won the game in regulation Saturday on a buzzer-beating, banked 3-pointer following an inbounds pass with 0.7 seconds remaining. However, official Bernie Fryer waved off the score and refused to be swayed by the Hornets' vehement protests.

Television replays were conclusive that Davis got the shot off before time expired.

Davis also had 14 rebounds and 10 assists as Charlotte got within one victory of winning the best-of-five series. The Hornets can advance to the Eastern Conference semifinals with a victory in Game 4 Tuesday night in Orlando.

P.J. Brown added 17 points for Charlotte. Reserve Jamal Magliore set playoff bests with 15 points and 10 rebounds.

For Orlando, Tracy McGrady scored 20 of his 37 points in the first half, and his 3-pointer with 1:13 left in regulation sent the game into overtime.

Darrell Armstrong had 21 points with eight assists for Orlando. Pat Garrity had 11 points and 10 rebounds and Horace Grant added 10 points and 10 rebounds.

Kings 90, Jazz 87

In Salt Lake City, Mike Bibby scored 26 points and Peja Stojakovic had 21 as the Sacramento Kings escaped with a victory over the Utah Jazz, giving Sacramento a 2-1 lead in the best-of-five series. The Kings can wrap up the series in Game 4 on Monday night.

In both of their playoff losses, the Jazz made a late gaffe. In Game 1, Scott Padgett tried to tip in a 3-pointer when Utah trailed by three.

This time, Bryon Russell missed a layup attempt that would have closed the Jazz to 88-87 in the final minute. But Russell put too much spin on the ball, and it went straight up and down in front of the hoop.

Hedo Turkoglu went up and grabbed it, and Doug Christie shot 2-for-4 from the foul line in the final 17.3 seconds as the Kings barely hung on.

Karl Malone scored 23 points, Donyell Marshall had 16 and John Stockton added 15 for the Jazz.

Chris Webber was in foul trouble, but had 18 points and 13 rebounds. Stojakovic had 11 rebounds.

Spurs 102, Sonics 75

In Seattle, Tim Duncan had 27 points and 13 rebounds and rookie guard Tony Parker added 23 points as the Spurs took a 2-1 lead in the first-round playoff series.

Game 4 of the best-of-five series will be played in Seattle on Wednesday night.

Gary Payton, Seattle's eight-time All-Star point guard, couldn't handle Parker on defense, but led the Sonics with 20 points.

Parker was 10-for-15 from the field and had five rebounds and four assists.

Robinson, who injured his back before a game in Detroit on April 12, did not play in his second straight playoff game. He played only seven minutes in Game 1.

The Spurs outscored Seattle 34-18 in the second quarter, limiting the Sonics to 7-for-24 shooting in taking a 57-39 halftime lead.

Raptors 94, Pistons 84

In Toronto, Antonio Davis was 14-of-19 from the field and scored 30 points as Toronto avoided being eliminated from the playoffs.

Keon Clark added 18 points on 7-for-11 shooting, Alvin Williams scored 17 and Chris Childs had 12 points and 10 assists in his second consecutive start. The Raptors led by as many as 20 points and withstood a 10-0 run by the Pistons in the fourth quarter to force a Game 4 in the best-of-five first-round series. It will be Monday night at the Air Canada Centre. *AP*

Solar telecasts Game 3

SOLAR Entertainment will telecast Game Three of the Dallas Mavericks-Minnesota Timberwolves NBA Western Conference first-round playoffs series on the Solar cable channel (Skycable-17, Homecable –17) at 10 a.m. today (April 29), with a replay at 8 p.m. Dallas holds a 2-0 series edge and can sweep the Timberwolves with a win today.

Statistical champs

NBA NOTES

Henry Liao

A PAIR of players won the NBA statistical championships each this season.

They are Philadelphia's Allen Iverson and Detroit's Ben Wallace. Despite missing 22 games with an assortment of injuries, including the final 14, Iverson paced the league in scoring and steals. Wallace, the NBA Defensive Player of the Year, took the rebounding and blocked shots crown. The rest of the eight statistical categories were won by four different players.

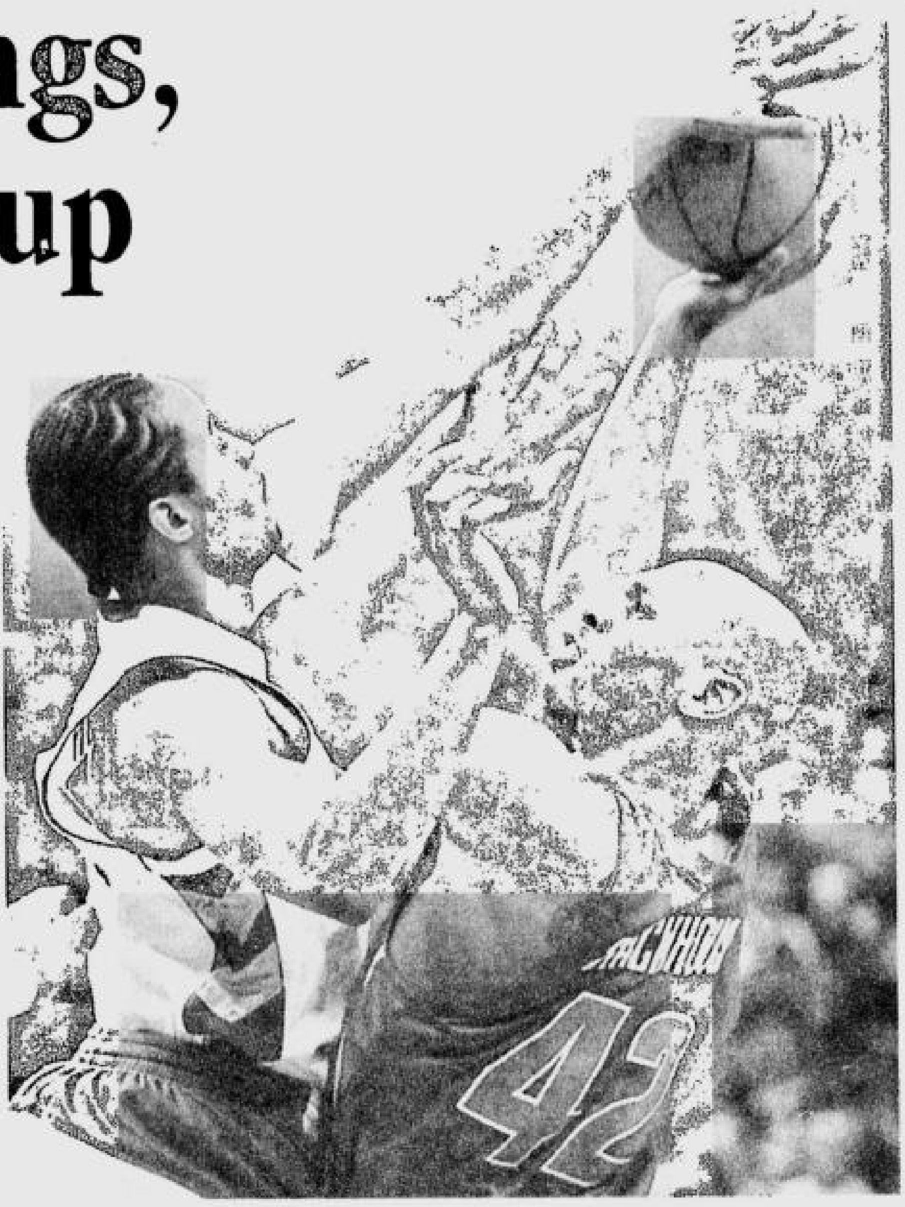
It was the second consecutive year that Iverson was tops in both departments. The 6-foot guard, who captured the scoring championship for the third time in four seasons, averaged 31.4 points—totalling 1,883 in 60 games—to outdistance the LA Lakers' Shaquille O'Neal, who hit at a 27.2 point clip in 67 contests. Boston's Paul Pierce ranked third at 26.1 ppg. His 2,144 points in 82 appearances were the most in the NBA this season.

Iverson's scoring average was the league's highest since Michael Jordan normed 32.6 with the Chicago Bulls in 1992-93. However, his .398 field goal accuracy is the lowest for an NBA scoring leader since 1947-48 when the Chicago Stags' Max Zaslofsky topped it at .323.

Iverson took the steals crown with a total of 168 for a league-best 2.80 average. Ron Artest, who split the season with Chicago and Indiana, was second at 2.56. spg.

Iverson easily met the minimum for the NBA leadership in scoring (70 games or 1,400 points) and steals (70 games or 125 steals).

A natural forward who starts at center for the Central Division champion Pistons, the 6-9 Wallace edged out San Antonio's Tim Duncan for the rebounding title, 13.0 rpg to 12.7. The 27-year-old Wallace, an undrafted product of NCAA Division II school Virginia Union, also averaged 3.48 shot blocks in 80 games, easily beating Raef LaFrentz, who split time with Denver and Dallas and had a 2.73 clip, for the league to spot in the department.



TORONTO'S Morris Peterson (left) rejects a shot by Detroit's Jerry Stackhouse. AP

Sampras spanks Agassi

HOUSTON—Pete Sampras, winless in 24 tournaments since taking his seventh Wimbledon title in 2000, beat second-seeded Andre Agassi 6-1, 7-5 on Saturday night to advance to the final of the US Men's Clay Court Championship.

Sampras will face third-seeded Andy Roddick, a 6-3, 2-6, 6-2 winner over Argentina's Guillermo Coria.

Sampras is 19-14 lifetime against Agassi, but it was only the second time in five meetings that Sampras beat Agassi on clay.

"Just playing him is unique," Sampras said. "Whether we're playing a practice match on a side court or in the finals at Wimbledon, he raises my game to another level."

The best game of the match was the 12th and final game of the match, after Sampras broke Agassi to take a 6-5 lead.

With Sampras serving for the match, Agassi fought off four match points before Sampras ended it with an ace.

"I thought he played very well and got off to a good start," Agassi said. "When you fall behind early, it's sometimes difficult to catch up. I tried to get my teeth into it, but I never settled in."

Roddick has an 11-0 record in Houston.

King axes Capriati

CHARLOTTE, North Carolina—A rift between Jennifer Capriati and captain Billie Jean King, coupled with Monica Seles' upset loss to Austria's Barbara Schwartz, has the United States on the verge of elimination in the Fed Cup.

Capriati, the No. 2 player in the world, was dismissed from the team late Friday for breaking King's strict rules about practices. *AP*

Sports, fitness courses set

THE NATIONAL Athletic Training and Fitness Academy (Natfa), a forefront in scientific sports and fitness training in the country, will be conducting a series of sports and fitness certification courses this summer.

Open to all those interested in scientific training, the program includes subjects in exercise physiology, anatomy, biomechanics, sports nutrition, scientific strength training and conditioning, injury prevention, athletic taping, drugs, sports supplements, sports first aid, program making, personal training and many more.

Heading the list of instructors is United States athletic trainer Jose Jimbo M. Saret, M.S. Athletic Training, Brigham Young University, USA. The others are professors and sports doctors from Flinders University, Australia; University of Oregon; Kreiskankenhaus Swarland, Germany; and the College of Human Kinetics and the College of Nutrition and Dietetics, University of the Philippines, Diliman.

Natfa was recently invited by the Philippine Sports Commission to conduct a scientific training workshop for the national coaches of Team Philippines and was a great success.

Certification Courses offered are in: Athletic Training Level 1; Athletic Training Level 2; Strength Training/Fitness Instructor Level 1 and 2; Aerobic Science Level; Sports First Aid; and Athletic Taping. For inquiries, please call 928-8163; text or call 0917-7933356.

Mandaluyong hosts Ucap tilt

LONG time partners Rep. Claude Bautista of Davao del Sur and veteran gamefowl specialist Boyboy Roa of Cagayan de Oro are hosting the 10th Ucap R and B Farm 7—Cock Derby this coming Tuesday and Thursday (April 30 and May 2) at the Mandaluyong Coliseum.

Sagupaan Super Feeds and the Washout Shampoo of Lakpue Drug are the sponsors.

Official entries must be submitted today (April 29) from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. Interested parties may contact 531-4003, 531-4005, 535-4110 and 535-2341.

Meanwhile, Mayor Gerry "Boy" Espina of Naval, Biliran Province, banners the participants in the upcoming 11th Ucap 7-Cock Derby on May 7, and 9, also at Mandaluyong Coliseum.

Espina is co-host of the derby with Patrick Puno, Alan Tan, John Capinpin, Larry Amante and Madlambayan brothers.

Motocross series unfolds May 4-5

WILL Shell-Yamaha's Ernie Leongson and Jovie Saulog continue to hold sway or will Caltex-Revtex-KTM's top rider Glen Aguilar bounce back?

Excitement heats up once again when the 2nd leg of the WG&A Super Ferry National Motocross Series goes to Cebu on May 4-5 at the F.F. Cruz, Reclamation Area in Mandaue City.

An island-hopping motocross odyssey, the WG&A event is a project of the KIDS (Kabataang Iwas Droga sa Tulong ng Sports) and organized by Hartebeest Entertainment Corp. and is supported by Bench, WG&A Superferry Freight and No Fear.

Seven legs will comprise the motocross tournament, which will also be held in Bacolod City, Palawan, Davao, Dumaguete and Cagayan de Oro for its remaining stages.

Touring Exalta gets warm Dagupan welcome

THE NISSAN Exalta GS Superio caught the fancy of the top marathoner Willie Ingles when the island-hopping tour of the archipelago went up north Saturday in the fourth Pan Philippine Marathon.

Ingles made another crucial run to Centra Luzon and the Ilocos provinces from Nissan-Mantrade in Magallanes and back before going back to the Visayas via Quezon and Bicol.

The Exalta reached Nissan-Mantrade at 7:45 p.m. Saturday with Ingles in charge and the duo of Chinchin Iriarte and Mon Dizon backing up his every move.

Ingles' journey to the north hiked the Exalta's Caltex Havoline odometer reading to 23,779 kilometers as the 30-day, non-stop drive reaches the last few legs. The run will officially end on Saturday with the Exalta expected to surpass the 30,586 kilometers logged by the Sentra Series II in 1995.

The Exalta crew received a warm welcome in Dagupan as city mayor Benjie Lim, former chief of Duty Free Philippines, spearheaded a motorcade around the city.

Ernie Dispo of Centrex, Nissan's distributor in the province, was also on hand to receive Ingles and his companions.

A 10-minute press conference was also held before the Exalta went back to the road. Among the media outfits that interviewed the crew members were Sun Star, Bombo Radyo and a couple of other stations.

THE SPARKLING Nissan 'Exalta' is shown traversing the Philippines' longest suspension bridge in Mahapit, Lallo, Cagayan in the course of its 30-day, night-and-day Pan Philippine marathon run to test its overall performance and safety technology.

RP bet tops Guam meet

GUAM—Shell Advance-Yamaha rider Ernie Leongson made the country proud anew when he emerged as the overall champion in the 2002 Guam Smokin Wheel Supercross championship held last April 20-21 in Guam.

Showing the form that made him one of the country's leading motocross riders in the 1990s, Leongson more than held his ground against his foreign counterparts and bagged the overall championship in this prestigous two-day competition organized by the Guam Racing Federation.

The multi-awarded rider from Taytay, Rizal, who was picked by the National Motorcycle Sports and Safety Association (Namssa) as the country's lone representative in the multi-nation competition, bagged first place in the 250cc category and the two-hour endurance race to clinch top honors before a sizable crowd that included a large Guam-based Filipino community.

He also finished third in the flat track competition.

"*Masayang-masaya ako*. This is not only a major achievement for me, but for the whole country as well," said Leongson, who is also best remembered for winning the Saipan Open motocross championship last year.

SPORTSWATCH

Davao netters shine

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT—Davao bets Rolito Litang, Pierre Fernandez and Ruel Rubillar downed separate rivals yesterday to gain second-round berths in the first Coca-Cola National Tennis Championships at the world-class Subic Bay International Tennis center here. Litang needed an extra set to beat Pius Ocampo of UST, 6-3, 0-6, 6-2; Fernandez outplayed Ritchie Cunanan, 6-4, 6-1; and Rubillar defeated Elbert Anasta, 7-5, 6-1. Top seed Johnny Arcilla, second pick Adelo Abadia, third seed Joseph Victorino, No. 11 Roland Kraut and No. 13 Pop Sabandon played true to form to lead Saturday night opening-day winners in the Philta-sanctioned Group 1 event presented by Coca-Cola Bottlers Phils. Inc. and sponsored by PLDT, Union Bank, Chris Sports, Wilson, Prince and Union Cement.

First at Fenway Park

BOSTON—Derek Lowe, who couldn't keep his job as a closer, pitched the first no-hitter at Fenway Park since 1965, leading the Boston Red Sox over the Tampa Bay Devil Rays 10-0 Saturday. Lowe, who was six outs short of a no-hitter in his first start of the season April 5 at Baltimore, allowed only one runner—a walk to Brent Abernathy leading off the third inning. Lowe finished off the first no-hitter in the majors this season by getting Jason Tyner on an easy grounder. *AP*

Garcia storms ahead

LAS PALMAS, Canary Islands—Sergio Garcia shot a 5-under-par 67 Saturday in the third round of the $1,530,000 (1,722,000 euros) Gran Canaria Spanish Open to stand on the brink of his first professional victory on home soil. The 22-year-old, who has staked out fresh territory on the U.S. tour with three victories there in the last 11 months, finished 14-under at 202. He will now carry a 5-shot lead over Italy's Emanuele Canonica into Sunday's final round. Canonica shot a 70 to finish at 207 and England's Greg Owen had a 72 for 208. Garcia will play his final round paired with Canoniča and 17-year-old Spanish amateur Rafael Cabrera, who shot a 67 to tie Owen for third slot at 208. *AP*

'Schu' bags 3rd pole

BARCELONA, Spain—The only challenger to Michael Schumacher and his Ferrari appears to be, well, another Ferrari. Schumacher, who is dominating the Formula One season and threatening to end the title chase before mid-summer, claimed his third pole in five tries this season in Saturday qualifying for the Spanish Grand Prix. Brazilian teammate Rubens Barrichello claimed the second spot and looks like the only driver of F1's 22 capable of pushing the four-time series champion. *AP*

Subic divefest May 4

THE 6TH Subic Dive Fiesta, one of local diving's much awaited events, will be held on Saturday, May 4, in the pristine Subic Bay waters off the SBMA Freeport. The annual divefest will have the Subic Bay Aqua Sports beachfront as headquarters. "The number of participants in the Subic Dive Fiesta continues to grow each year," said Xtremeworx president Noli Tinio. "We are expecting a bigger turnout on Saturday."

Runnex race on tap

THE EXECUTIVE Runners Club, Philippines Inc. (Runnex) will stage its 19th Anniversary race on May 19 at the Elliptical road, Quezon Memorial Circle and UP Diliman Campus. The event is open to all running enthusiasts. Ben Lopez and Pol de Leon, president and race technical director, respectively, of Running Executives, said cash prizes and trophies will be awarded to the top finishers. Registration center is at the Runnex Multi-Purpose shed inside QMC, from 6-8 a.m. Entry fee is P150. For more details, call 924-2447.

5-cock meet today

AFICIONADOS will be in for another exciting cockfighting action when the 7th Galleros de Manila 5-Cock Derby blasts off today at the Roligon Mega Cockpit in Parañaque City. Big names like Iking Araneta, Jimmyton Araneta, William Go, Lito Alcantara, Emmitt San Juan, Gene Avendano, Voltaire Fronda, ASF, Jun Marasigan of Saipan, Bobby Del Rosario, Buddy Robregado and others will display their prized pit fighters. The pot money in is P11,000, while minimum bet is P5,500. For inquiries, call Rizelle at 893-20-93 or Roligon at 833-16-38 or 833-2275.

Greg Norman course opens May 1

PLAYABILITY rounds for the first nine holes of the course designed by Australian Greg Norman for the Eagle Ridge Golf and Country Club in Gen. Trias, Cavite will be allowed starting on Labor Day, May 1.

The opening of the front nine of Eagle Ridge will further expand the country's biggest golf complex to 63 holes, needing just the Norman back nine to complete the ambitious 72-hole joint venture project of Sta. Lucia Realty and Alsons Land Corp.

Eagle Ridge is now the biggest golf complex in the country. With its two existing clubhouses, it can readily accommodate no less than 800 golfers a day.

Already operational are the three championship courses designed by noted designers Andy Dye, Nick Faldo and Japanese legend Isao Aoki all of which are diverse in character.

NORMAN

The Norman version will give members and guests of Eagle Ridge an entirely different option which is that of a very friendly course.

While the Dye and Faldo courses have always proven to be a skill challenge, the Norman layout playing no longer than 7,000 yards can instantly give powerhitters an advantage due to its wider fairways.

The Norman bunkers are strategically located to make things more exciting for players becoming too greedy.

But the "raised up" design of the sand traps which make them visible from all angles helps a lot in choosing the right placements off the tee plus the fact that chances of getting good lies from the traps are always high.

Metro West rules Corporate tourney

METRO West Triangle upstaged home teams in winning the overall team title in the recent Rotary Corporate Challenge organized by the Rotary Golfing Fellowship Foundation of the Philippines (RGGFP) at the Mimosa Golf and Country Club.

Max Perez, Pete Lopez, Rod Villanueva and Chito Cruz combined for 242 points to take the top plum in the 36-hole tourney chiefly sponsored by Adidas Taylor Made and the Laus Group of Companies through its chair-CEO Levi Laus.

Angeles Centro-Poseidon tallied 232 to beat Angeles Centro-Hercules by one in the Founders division while Angeles-Tycoon's 237 gave it a whopping 12-point win in the Governors division.

The President's division was won by Dau over Bagumbayan-Congo Grill, 229-222, while the Open division crown went to Pampanga Gov. Lito Lapid's team which narrowly missed the overall title by a point as it scored 241.

Nobody won the Opel Astra station wagon sponsored by GM Auto World Pampanga and 2002 Ford Lynx Ghia courtesy of Ford Pampanga which were staked as hole-in-one prizes.

Aside from the Laus Group and Taylor Made, other big backers of the event are Casino Filipino-Mimosa, the Clark Development Corp. through its president and CEO Dr. Emmanuel Y. Angeles.

Golf for a cause attracts huge field at Binictican

CLOSE to 200 golf professionals and enthusiasts converged at the Subic Bay Golf and Country Club recently to vie for the prestigious 4th Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority Chairman's Cup in Binictican, Subic, Olongapo.

Executives and officials from various corporations in Subic took part in the 18-hole stroke play for team and individual competitions. At stake were new automobiles and many other special prizes like Johnny Walker Black Label Scotch Whisky which has been a staunch supporter of the event since its inception.

Dubbed as "Play Golf for a Cause," the one-day event which also marked Chair Payumo's 63rd birthday, was sponsored by Johnnie Walker Scotch Whisky, Subic Bay Golf and Country Club, FedEx, Norkis Yamaha, Mitsubishi and the Subic Bay Yacht Club.

No need for DYS—Juico

CLEAN LIVING

Manolo R. Iñigo

MY RECENT piece entitled "Sports Agency" (PDI , April 24) has elicited these comments from former Philippine Sports Commission chair Philip Ella Juico who said that rather than create a new department (Department of Youth and Sports), it might be better for Congress to consider strengthening the national Physical Fitness and Sports Development Councils by providing realistic budgets to said councils and by having the PSC chair as either co- or vice-chair of the national Pfsdc. Although virtually unknown, these councils were created under Executive Order 63 by then President Fidel Ramos in March 1993 shortly after the First Sports Summit held in Baguio City in October 1992.

A former Agrarian Reform secretary and now dean of La Salle University's Graduate School of Business, Juico said the planned DYS will not have direct access to the client it wishes to serve since the students/youth will be with the education department while the Local Government Units (LGUs) will be with the Department of Interior and Local Government. "The DYS," he said, "would therefore be like the Department of Agriculture without farmer-clients or the Department of Defense with no direct access to our fighting men and women."

Instead of the DYS, Juico added, legislators may consider giving more corporate powers to the PSC by converting it to an Authority that will be more flexible in many respects than a line department such as the proposed DYS.

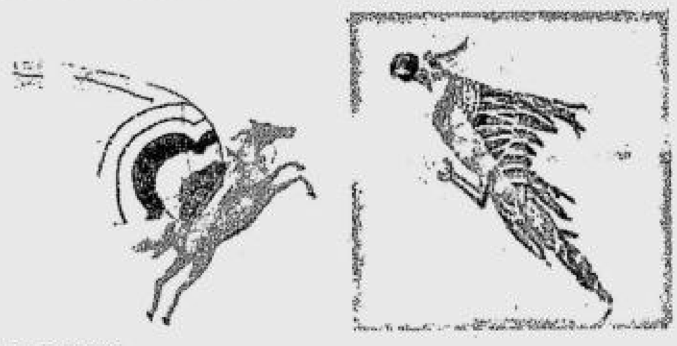
The former PSC chair also said there already exists a Philippine Institute for Sports (Philsports) which was created through a memorandum signed by then President Ramos sometime in November 1997 after the Southeast Asian Games in Jakarta. Formerly called the University of Life, the entire Ultra dormitory and sports complex (including the track and field oval, football field and swimming pool) form part of Philsports. Even the Philippine Amateur Fencing Association (Pafa) is located within the Philsports complex, Juico clarified. "Philsports is therefore the host of Pafa. And I was somewhat surprised to read in your column that Philippine Olympic Committee president Cito Dayrit, who is president of the Pafa, proposed the creation of the Philippine Sports Institute."

Juico said the idea behind the creation of Philsports was precisely for it to serve the needs of elite athletes and conduct, among other things, nondegree, short-term special courses in coaching, etc. The plan was to remove the responsibility of managing the elite athlete system from the PSC so that it could concentrate on promoting mass-based sports and sectoral sports under the "Sports for All" concept. The PSC-Philsports model was patterned after the Australian Sports Commission-Australian Institute of Sports and not the Gintong Alay model that did not really have anything to do with mass-based sports.

All these were contained in the Master/ Sector Plan for Philippine Sports that the Ramos administration turned over to its successor. Sadly, Juico noted, there was even no attempt to revisit the plan by the incoming administration.

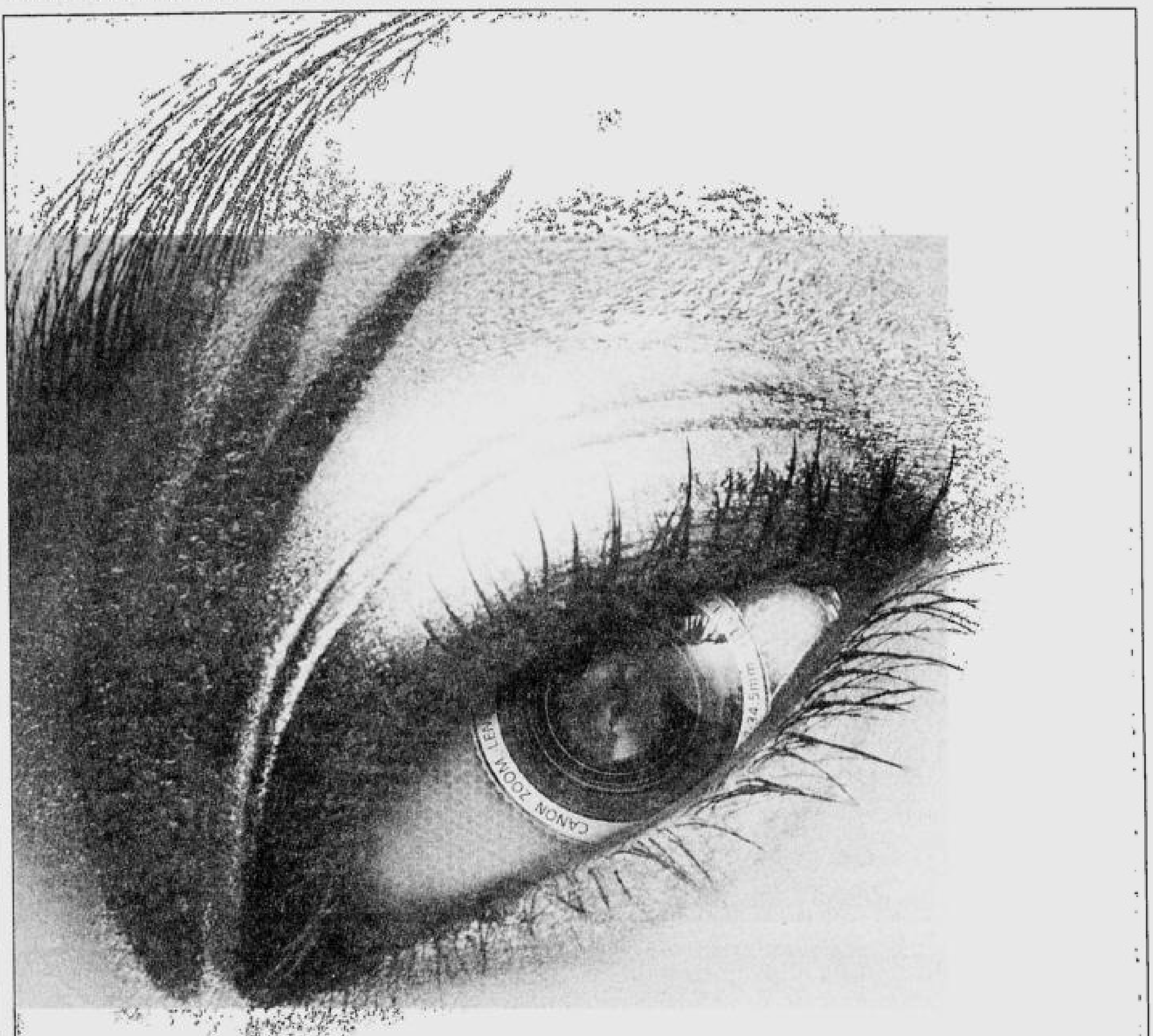
* * *

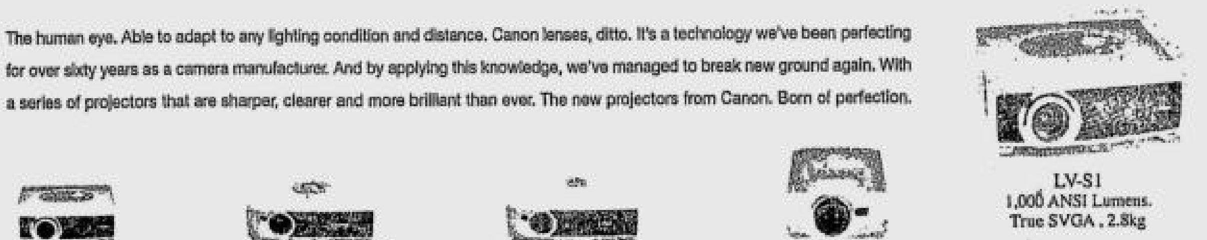
For inquiries, call fax/phone (044)933-1214.



KITEFEST

Shown are two of the leading entries in the Bear Brand Kitefest 2002 held in Cagayan de Oro City recently. The 10-part kite-flying competition is organized by Nestle Phils. as part of its efforts to promote worthwhile activity for the whole family this summer.





Perfect vision

The human eye. Able to adapt to any lighting condition and distance. Canon lenses, ditto. It's a technology we've been perfecting for over sixty years as a camera manufacturer. And by applying this knowledge, we've managed to break new ground again. With a series of projectors that are sharper, clearer and more brilliant than ever. The new projectors from Canon. Born of perfection.

LV-X1
1,100 ANSI Lumens.
TrueXGA, 2.8kg

LV-7340
1,500/1,300 ANSI Lumens.
TrueXGA, 4.0kg

LV-7345
2,100/1,800 ANSI Lumens.
TrueXGA, 4.0kg

LV-7545
3,700/3,200 ANSI Lumens.
TrueXGA, 8.5kg

LV-S1
1,000 ANSI Lumens.
True SVGA , 2.8kg

Also Available: LV-5110/5100/7105, LV-7320, LV-7325, LV-7525, LV-7510 Models

Technology that makes you smile

YES! I want to know more about the Canon Multi-Media Projectors featured here.

Name: ____________

Company Name: ____________

Address: ____________

____________ Tel./Fax: ____________

PLEASE FAX TO 812-0067

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: CANON SINGAPORE PTE LTD 79 ANSON ROAD #09-01/06 SINGAPORE 079906 INTERNET: http://www.canon.com.ph

CANON MARKETING PHILIPPINES, INC. MARVIN PLAZA BLDG. 2153 DON CHINO ROCES AVENUE, MAKATI CITY.
TEL: 812-6047/892-6449 FAX: 812-0067. E-mail address: info@canon.com.ph

BRANCHES: BATAAN Dilg Bldg., Manuel Banton Street Balanga, Bataan Tel: (047)237-21-51
CEBU Door 10, IP & 20 Free Star Arcade Hernan Cortes Street, Subangdaku, Mandaue City, Cebu
Tel: (032)345-36-80 (032)345-38-21 Fax: (032)344-67-76
DAVAO Door 1 Navigators Building, Ponce Cor. Gempesaw Streets Davao, City Tel: (082)222-33-92
LA UNION Grd Flr., Magdalena Peralta Building Sevilla Norte, Quezon Avenue San Fernando, La Union
Tel: (072)242-04-40 / (072)242-45-87
LEGAZPI Door 7 & 8 CEA Building Ground Floor, Lapu-Lapu Street Legazpi City
Tel: (052)480-63-31 / (052)214-38-63

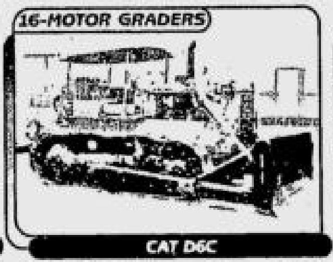
Canon
Technology that makes you smile

AIA
ASIA INTERNATIONAL AUCTIONEERS, INC.
CBU Trucks & Equipment
"NO-MINIMUM-PRICE" PUBLIC AUCTION
MAY 24-26, 2002 FRIDAY TO SUNDAY
HINDI LAHAT NG AUCTION AY PARE-PAREHO
Para iwas problema dahil sa delayed na dokumento at palpak na conversion, sa AIA maki-auction.

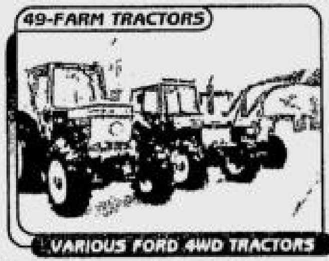
INSPECTION DATES: MAY 19, 22 & 23 • SALE STARTS AT 8:00 AM • NO "BUY BACK" • ALL MUST GO • TAXES & DUTIES PAID • PARADE - STYLE

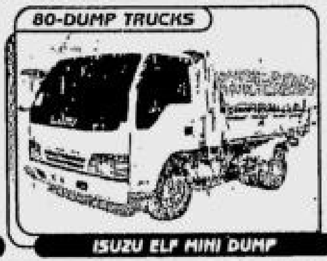
32-EXCAVATORS
HITACHI UHO45-7

P&H 325TC (25T)

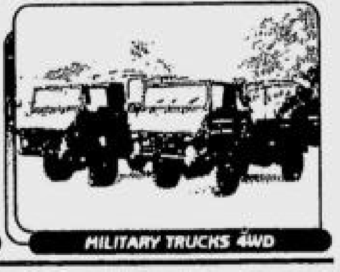


16-WHEEL LOADERS
TCM50B





80-REF VANS
ISUZU ELF REEFER



SITE: Lower Mau Camp, Argonaut Hi-way, Subic
☎ (047) 252-3333 (047) 252-6840
Manila ☎ (02) 531-5751/ 531-5789/531-5061
Email: asiainc@svisp.com
Financing available thru: ORIX METRO Leasing & Financing Corp. ☎ 858-8888
Inquire and Register on-line via www.asia-intl-auct

SPORTS

Editor Al S. Mendoza ◎ Assistant Editor Edwin M. Villanueva

SUPERLOTTO 6/49

1 44 37 11 33 34

Teener shocks Villamayor

NATIONAL Master John Paul Gomez created the biggest stir by upsetting Grandmaster Buenaventura "Bong" Villamayor after 37 moves of a Pirc Opening in the second round of the National Chess Championships at the All Asia Capital Center in Paseo de Roxas, Makati City. The 15-year-old Gomez is an incoming high school senior at De La Salle-Zobel.

Kutitap meets ICTSI

GAMES TODAY
(Pasig Sports Complex)
4 p.m.—ICTSI-La Salle vs Kutitap
6 p.m.—John O vs Ateneo-Hapee

LEADER Kutitap seeks to keep its sparkling record as it tackles dangerous ICTSI-La Salle, while John-O and Ateneo-Hapee-Negros Navigation also collide today in the PBL Chairman's Cup at the Pasig Sports Complex.

The Cecilio de Pedro-owned Sparklers test the Green Archers at 4 p.m., followed by another exciting clash between the John-O and Ateneo-Hapee-Negros Navigation.

Kutitap is occupying the solo leadership with a 5-1 card, while ICTSI-La Salle is tied in third spot with John-O with 4-2 record. *Dennis Eroa*

Dress up your 2002 REVO • ADVENTURE • CROSSWIND
BUY FACTORY PRICE A.U.V. • S.U.V. • VANS • PICK-UP
Now Available:
ISUZU CROSSWIND
X.U.V. CONVERSION PACKAGE PROMO
P25,000.00 only
1st 10 Customers
ADVENTURE ACCESSORIES:
Bulbar, Side Bar, Rear Bar, Bumper Overrider, Chrome Mirror, Chrome Door Handle, Chrome Tail Lite, Trunk Lid Cover, Rear Spoiler, Roof Rail
TOYOTA REVO SPORTS RUNNER (SR)
CONVERSION PACKAGE PROMO P18,000.00
Two-Tone Painting P 5,000 only
AVAIL PACKAGE PROMO !!!
WRAP AROUND STAINLESS BULL BARS P 17,000 only
(FRONT, SIDE, REAR)
ALSO AVAILABLE
• ADVENTURE SUPER SPORT CONVERSION P25,000
• HI-LANDER X-TRM CONVERSION P18,000
• FUEGO SPORTS (4X4 LOOK) CONVERSION P25,000
WE WILL BEAT Any Price in town
KILANG
22 New York St. Cubao, Q.C.
PASAR MOBIL ACCESSORIES
1750 Alabang-Zapote Rd. Almanza I Las Piñas City
413-8060 • 413-8077 • 411-9075 • 0916-4358799

SPORTS ON TV

Compiled by
Lorenzo Mangulat

BASKETBALL: First Round playoff—LA Lakers vs Portland Trail Blazers at 5:30 a.m. (r-9 p.m.) on ESPN

MOTOR SPORTS: Race Day - Spanish Grand Prix at 9 a.m. (r) on Star Sports

2002 F1 World Championship - Spanish Grand Prix at 9:45 a.m. (r) on Star Sports

Chequered Flag - Spanish Grand Prix at 12 noon (r) on Star Sports

SHARK
Rule the Road
Stainless Rear Step Tube w/ Lights >
Stainless Side Step Tube w/ Lights >
FREE!!!
Roof Caddy with every set of SHARK Stainless Steel Tube.
HURRY, OFFER GOOD UNTIL APRIL 30, 2002!!!
for REVO, ADVENTURE and CROSSWIND
SURESTEP
1013 EDSA Quezon City Telephone No. 410-3067 / 410-3065 or 372-3640

PBA SAMSUNG CUP

SMB ousts Talk N Text

GAMES TOMORROW (Cuneta Astrodome)
6 p.m.—Purefoods vs Coca-Cola
8 p.m.—Alaska vs San Miguel

By June Navarro

SAN Miguel Beer got rid of Talk N Text with relative ease to post an 81-70 victory and reach the semifinals of the PBA Samsung Governors Cup at the Araneta Coliseum last night.

The Beermen again caught the Phone Pals by surprise as they followed up their 79-70 win over their top-seeded opponents last week to arrange a best-of-five semifinal duel against the Alaska Aces.

It was actually a case of history repeating itself for the Beermen as they did a similar feat during the quarterfinals of the 2000 Governors Cup.

At that time, the Beermen overcame Tanduay's twice-to-beat edge to barge into the semifinals and eventually clinch the title behind the expertise of Lamont Strothers.

Strothers was at it again last night, taking over the leadership chores for Beermen as he led the charge apart from finishing with 21 points.

This time though, the two-time Governor's Cup best import wasn't alone in doing the trick for the battle-tested Beermen.

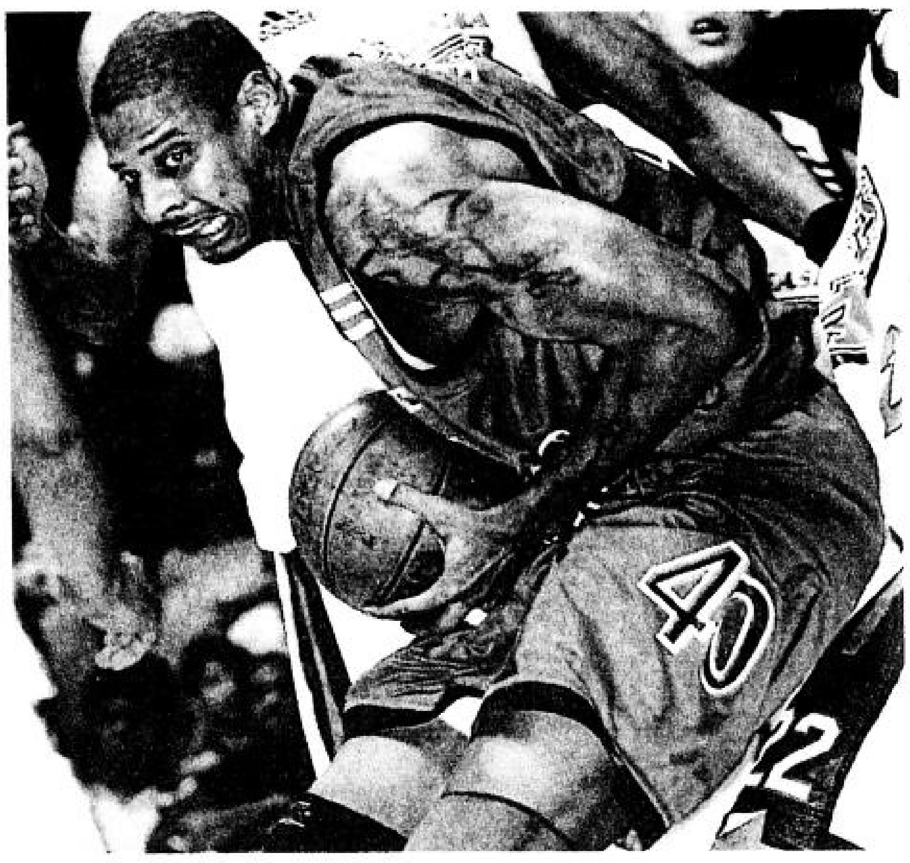
Former NBA journeyman Mario Bennett spent most of his energy in the third quarter, coming up with 11 of his team-high 26 points as the Beermen zapped the Phone Pals with an ego-deflating 20-7 outburst.

Joey Mente, Dorian Pena, Nic Belasco, Rob Duat, Boybits Victoria and Dwight Lago also did their share as they proved instrumental in limiting the Phone Pals to a measly 10 points in that span.

That big third-quarter binge was the only thing San Miguel needed to take the fight out of the Phone Pals for good.

"It was essentially a mixture of hard work and luck. We caught them (Phone Pals) in two bad nights and played our hearts out," said San Miguel Beer interim coach Siot Tanquincen.

The Phone Pals experienced the same forgettable episode when they got booted out by eighth-seeded Barangay Ginebra Kings despite enjoying a twice-to-beat advantage during the quarterfinals of the 1999 All-Filipino Cup.



BENNETT: Brilliant teamup with Strothers. FILE PHOTO

Scores:

SAN MIGUEL 81—Bennett 26, Strothers 21, Victoria 14, Lago 6, Pena 6, Mente 4, Belasco 2, Duat 2.

TALK N TEXT 70—Honeycutt 30, Frahm 17, Telan 9, Evans 8, Pablo 4, Crisano 2, Demape 0.

Quaters: 19-24, 39-43, 63-53, 81-70.

LBC Batangas stuns RCPI, faces Davao cagers today

GAME TODAY (RMC Gym)
6 p.m.—Batangas vs Davao

THE LBC Batangas Blades put their trust on Jeffrey Sanders and, so far, he has delivered.

Sanders scored a game-high 27 points as the Blades thwarted the Casino Cagayan de Oro Amigos' fiery rally to tally an 80-77 victory Saturday night and boost their semifinal bid in the MBA First Conference at the Mindanao Polytechnic Gym.

The Blades led by as many as 22 points (57-35) early in the third quarter only to find the Amigos breathing down their necks in the homestretch.

Sanders and Ralph Rivera, however, provided the sustaining firepower that handed the Blades their third straight win after dropping their first two games.

The Amigos, on the other hand, suffered their seventh defeat against a lone victory and formally bowed out of the semifinal race in the Southern Conference.

For the fourth straight time the reedy 6-foot-3 Sanders scored 20 points or more. He made 20 against Pampanga, 24 against Osaka Pangasinan and 21 against RCPI Negros to emerge as the Blades most prolific scorer.

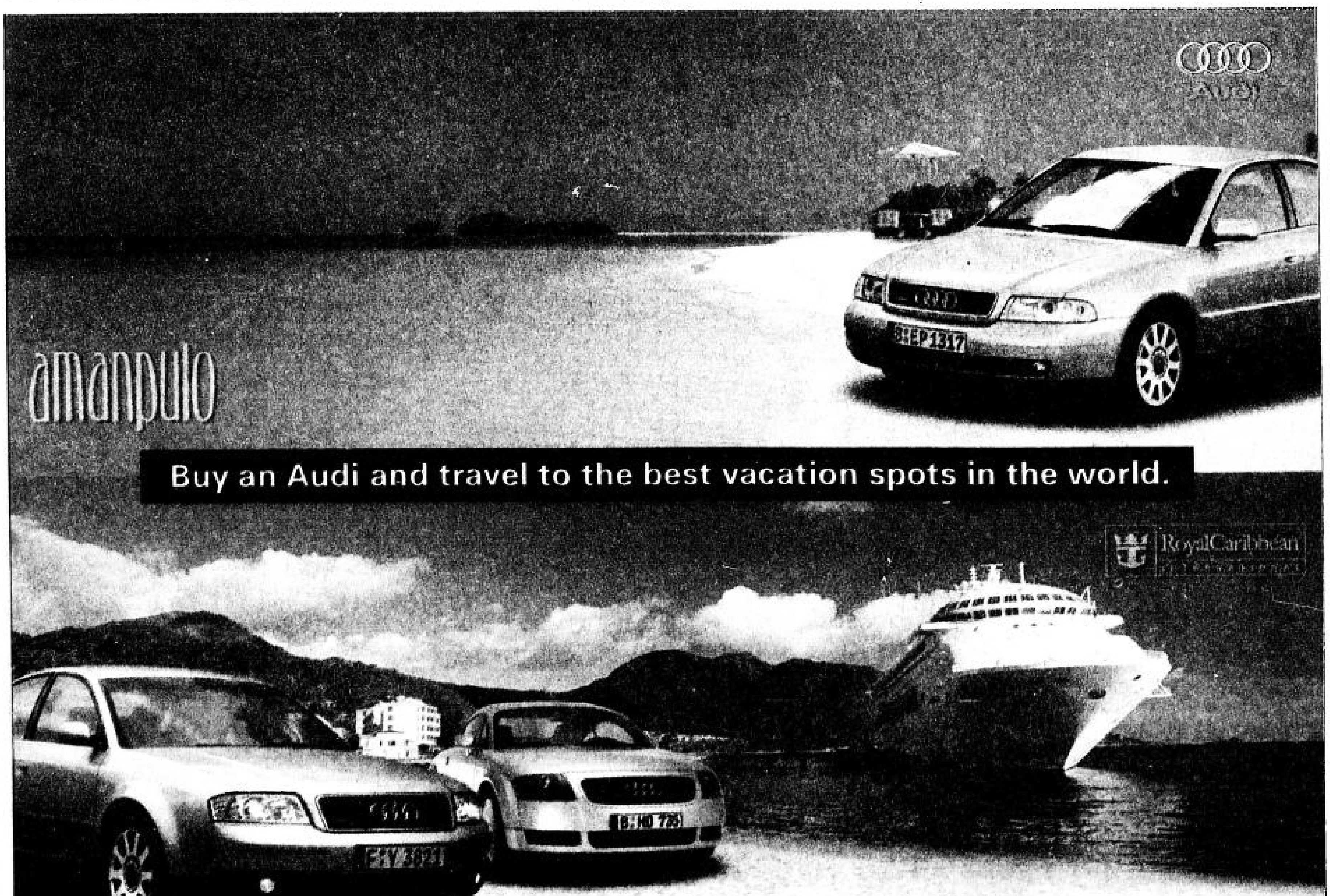
Given more playing time in the absence of 1999 MVP Alex Compton, Rivera contributed 19 points for the reigning national titlists.

Eddie Laure, the 2001 MVP, again did his part for Coach Nash Racela by snagging 15 rebounds on top of eight points, three assists and one block.

The Blades are again expected to miss the services of Compton, who's attending to his ailing father in the United States, when they visit the Professional Davao Eagles at 6 p.m. today at the RMC Gym.

Earlier, Professional Davao stunned RCPI Negros, 87-77, to improve to 4-3 and forge a three-cornered fight for the two semis slots in the Southern Conference.

PCHelp COMPUTER SERVICE
IN HOME & IN OFFICE COMPUTER REPAIR
Honest and Experienced Technicians
✓ DIAGNOSTICS
✓ UPGRADES
✓ NETWORKING
✓ NEW COMPUTER SET UP
✓ MAINTENANCE
✓ PRINTER/MONITOR REPAIRS
✓ SOFTWARE PROBLEMS INSTALLATION
LOWEST PRICES JOBS GUARANTEED
727-2222


Audi
amanpulo
Buy an Audi and travel to the best vacation spots in the world.
Royal Caribbean

Now the pleasures of Audi goes beyond just driving. Buy an **Audi A4** and you'll get a two-night stay in **Amanpulo**, inclusive of airfare for two. And if you buy an **A6** or **TT**, you'll be sailing the high seas on a four-night cruise to the **Caribbean**, including airfare for two.

Now you do not only have one, but two unmatched offers like no other: the most luxurious car and the ultimate paradise experience.

To test drive an Audi and to partake these pleasures, visit the Audi showroom now.

Promo period is from March 15 to May 15, 2002. Availment of trips: Amanpulo–until July 15, 2002; Caribbean–until August 31, 2002. Offer is valid on Suggested Retail Price only.

Vorsprung durch Technik www.audi.com.ph

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0479 Series of 2002

AUTHORIZED DEALERS: Auto Prominence Corp. MAKATI: 2326 Pasong Tamo Ext., Makati City. Tel. No. 843-1195/843-1640/843-1649 Fax 843-3641 E-mail: apcsales@audi.com.ph • CEBU: 38 Gorordo Ave., Cebu City. Tel. No. (032) 233-3568 Telefax: 233-5733 E-mail: apccebu@audi.com.ph

METRO

Editor **Louie C. Camino**

Vice mayor cleared in mate's death

By Alcuin Papa

MAKATI Police investigators were quick to clear Vice Mayor Ernesto Mercado of any involvement in the supposed suicide of his live-in partner Racquel Ambrosio last week.

SPO4 Leonardo Timtiman, officer-in-charge of the Makati City Police homicide division, said Ambrosio's friends, sisters Irene and Noemi Bartolome, had told police that the vice mayor was not in the condominium unit he shared with Ambrosio, 24, when they arrived there on Wednesday night and found her bleeding from a gunshot wound in the stomach.

If there would be other testimonies contradicting the statements of the Bartolomes and housemaid Mylene Obiena, then police would look closely at Mercado, Timtiman said.

But no other witnesses whose testimonies might contradict the claim of the three persons had surfaced, police said.

Police earlier asked Mercado his statement on the supposed suicide of Ambrosio, but the Makati City Public Information Office instead released on Friday a statement that said Mercado was asking for an end to "speculations" that he had anything to do with Ambrosio's death.

Another statement Mercado's office released said Ambrosio was suffering from severe post-partum depression or post-natal blues after the birth of her son three moths ago.

The Bartolome sisters found Ambrosio bleeding from a gunshot wound in her bedroom in the condominium unit on the 20th floor of the Peak Towers on Leviste Street in Barangay Bel Air, Makati about 11 p.m. on Wednesday, investigators said. The sisters brought the victim to the Makati Medical Center where she died the following morning.

The Bartolome sisters told police Ambrosio had called them earlier Wednesday night after she had a misunderstanding with Mercado, who had left the condominium. They said Ambrosio had asked them to come to the condo.

Ambrosio's maid Obiena turned over to police the .38 pistol that Ambrosio had supposedly shot herself with.

Supt. Jose Salido, who had recently gone on leave, had said there was no explanation why it was the maid who turned over the weapon to police.

PO2 Juancho Ibis said on Saturday that police would take the statement of Mercado after Ambrosio's burial. He said the vice mayor had expressed willingness to be questioned by police to end speculations.

BENEDICTO

Ex-child star in carnap attempt

/A27

CARLO MUÑOZ
Commercial Model
Acne

SCARS & WARTS FREE COMPLEXION!
30% OFF! ON ALL SKIN TREATMENT

- Dark Spots
- Pigmentation
- Acne / Pimples Marks
- Post Pregnancy Marks
- Skin Whitening & Peeling

Other Services:
- Pimple/Acne Treatment
- Warts Removal
- French Technique Faciale

dermi'e total'le
Paris, France
Skin and Body Care Center

MAKATI BRANCH
12 D Century Plaza Cond., Perea St., Legaspi Village
QUEZON CITY BRANCH
Suit 315 Pasda Mansion,Panay Ave., cor Timog Ave.

For more details please call: 812-7901 / 812-8044 / 373-0614

Here's an Express Advice for Supermoms this back-to-school season...

Use the EPS
to pay for school supplies
and get the chance to win
a cool surprise!

EPS SMART SHOPPER
Your Kid's A Winner!

Even Supermoms need help during the school season.

With Express Teller's EPS, you enjoy the convenience of shopping for school supplies, even without carrying cash. Simply bring out your Express Teller card and pay in a swipe!

The more you use Express Teller's EPS, the more chances you get to win cool gadgets you and your kids can enjoy-- laptop computers. Palm M505 and Nokia phone kits. You may also be among the 20 weekly winners of ₱1,000 each.

Every ₱1,000 purchase entitles you to one raffle number. The more you shop, the more chances of winning! Hurry - promo runs from April 29 to July 7, 2002 only. See posters and flyers for details.

EPS shopping also gives you these rewards all year round:
- Get the FULL sale price even when you're not carring cash.
- No need to line up at the ATM to withdraw.

BANK OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS
A tradition of leadership

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1550 Series of 2002

WAZZZZUP? ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

BUMA	MAHA BAND	☎896.1939
Cowboy Grill BIÑAN, LAGUNA	MIXED-UP HIMIG	NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎(049) 511.7268
Cowboy Grill ALMANZA LAS PIÑAS	STREETLIFE BROWNIE/ MUSIC CIRCUIT	NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎801.7644
Cowboy Grill ARQUIZA ST. MALATE	GIFTED MIND FAT 16/ ZEST	NO ENTRANCE FEE 525.1474/525.4269
Cowboy Grill REMEDIOS ST. MALATE	MR ROXY PARTY-Z-POLE	NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎521.8143
Cowboy Grill NOVALICHES Q.C.	ICE KENDI SWEETBLOOD	NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎936.9757
KAMPO 2088 #47 WEST AVENUE Q.C.	GROOVE RAVE	☎373.5110
TIA MARIA'S REMEDIOS COR. CAROLINA ST	ON LINE D'BUMP	☎522-0429
Tropical FOREST Cafe-Grill-Restaurant	MOONSTRUCKS	SOUP & SALAD BUFFET ☎400-7438/39

MONDAY APRIL 29 912-8983

What Drives You

SCRATCHA NUMBA

The winning number combination for **April 29, 2002:**

3	0	6
three	zero	six

If your card matches the numbers above, you win ₱306.00.

- Up to ₱15 million worth of instant cash prizes!
- You could also be one of three lucky winners of up to ₱10 million in the raffle draw!
- Get your game cards at participating Caltex stations with every minimum purchase.

CALTEX What Drives You

Promo period is from March 15 - June 15 2002 • Per DTI-NCR Permit no 0245 Series of 2002 • See flyers for details

An ugly duckling many people now want to marry

BARE EYE

Recah Trinidad

ONE of the imposing concrete monuments standing watch at the street corners of Marikina City supposedly looks like former US President Bill Clinton.

That was one complaint we've heard about the magically transformed city.

It was mouthed by a resident who wondered if the dedicated, driven man who has shaped Marikina into a model capital is a big fan of Mr. Clinton.

There, of course, came other criticisms of Marikina after our glowing report on the city, like how squatter families had been driven out of creek sides and sidewalk vendors had been put in less visible venues.

On the whole, though, there has not been a single rejection of Marikina's tremendous transition.

To clarify, builder Bayani Fernando, husband of Marikina Mayor Marides Fernando, swore all the sidestreet monuments are meant to honor the city's unsung heroes: the workers, the faceless daily wage earners whose toils inspired him to reshape the place into what it is today.

The Clinton resemblance was purely accidental. Maybe the sculptor was in a hurry. Maybe he dug his chisel too hard into the chin area.

Not that Mr. Fernando, or BF as he's fondly called, was not intent in honoring Clinton or any big time capitalists.

The father of modern Marikina, who could not sit through the Lucio San Pedro masterpiece "*Sa Ugoy ng Duyan*" without shedding a tear, simply wanted it known that leaders are worthless if they don't recognize the true worth of workers.

***

Actually, those who have heard of the new Marikina and come to visit it are left wondering. They unanimously ask how the magic has been woven.

One sharp-eyed guy who has gladly noted the transformation is writer Fred dela Rosa, a prodigy and favorite beer buddy of National Artist Nick Joaquin.

In his Observer column for the Manila Times recently, Dela Rosa, Edong to Nick and other beer chums, more than confirmed what amazed visitors have been whispering (with great envy) about Marikina.

Based on his confession, Marikina was a poor, ugly girl whom he did not even bother to look at.

And he regrets: "Here's a place that used to be a backwater but is now a progressive city. It was known primarily for a distinguished product—handcrafted leather shoes—but the city's business diversified a long time ago. Marikina River used to be a Stygian waterway but look what wonders the Marikeños have done with the tributary. The seedy Calumpang red-light district gave the place a smear of notoriety but urban renewal now informs the place and other districts."

***

The writer had all but forgotten the ugly duckling.

"I, however, started to develop an interest in the city through conversations with Marikina residents," writes Edong dela Rosa. "One of them, Ed Tipton, the veteran broadcast journalist, could spend hours describing the wonders of his city. There was also Ponciano Pineda, former director of the Institute of National Language and a Marikina old-timer, who confirmed what everybody has been talking about the place."

As noted by the writer, the city proper is clean, the streets and sidewalks are spacious (with the transfer of hawkers to a designated flea market), and the improvement of streets and sidewalks is an ongoing activity.

And more: Marikina collects, recycles and processes its own garbage, a network of bicycle lanes as a model of non-motorized transport is taking shape, and the pilot scheme along Sumulong Highway is expected to be replicated in other parts of the country. The downtown area is unlike other business and residential centers that recognize no zoning laws, flout civic ordinances and reject quality-of-life issues. But more exciting things are taking place in business, education, history, leisure, culture, sports and tourism. There is a serious effort to upgrade government operations through technology. The city, committed to free, universal basic education, hopes to earn P1 billion this year through an uncompromising tax revenue collection.

***

Of course, quickly explains Edong dela Rosa, not all is well with Marikina: "While residents are generally more satisfied with garbage services, public market sanitation and traffic facilities than those living in eight other cities in Metro Manila, they feel there are not enough parking spaces and traffic enforcers in their city. Marikina, together with Makati, has received the lowest rating of 'average' while seven other cities—Manila, Pasig, Mandaluyong, Pasay, Parañaque, Muntinlupa, Quezon City—got 'above average' grades."

However, these cities, promptly defends the writer, do not have the qualities of Marikina: There is no respect for civility, there is little sense of discipline and community, while residents take no civic pride in their cities and their mayors.

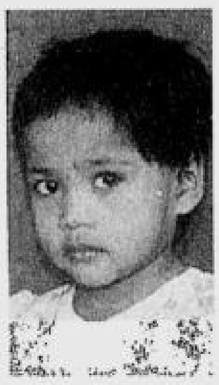
The Marikina masterpiece itself sounds like a fairy tale.

And, someday, says writer Fred dela Rosa, "I hope to live in the city of Mayor Marides Fernando."

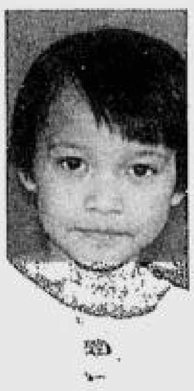
Do you know these kids?

THESE children are in the care of the Department of Social Welfare, Division of Institutions. Their parents or guardians are requested to contact Mrs. Patrocinia A. Abes, officer-in-charge of the Girls' Home Unit of the Boys' Town Complex in Parang, Marikina City or social worker Mrs. Amelia F. Ballon at 942-00-13.

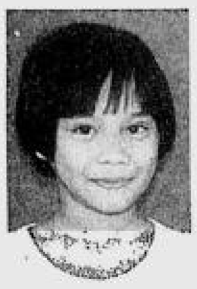
If the parents or guardians fail to coordinate with them regarding the status of these minors, their papers will be processed for possible adoption, according to Boys' Town.



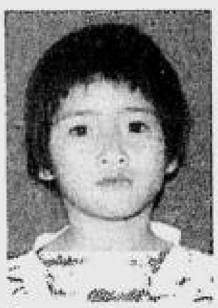
Judy Ann Casayas, 4



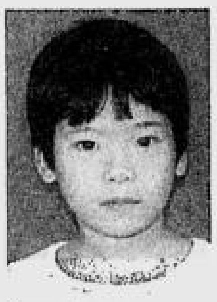
Juvy Casayas, 6



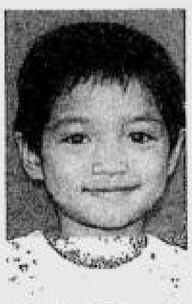
Neneng Marbaes, 6



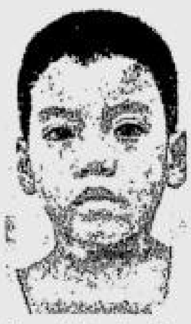
Joan Zapanta, 6



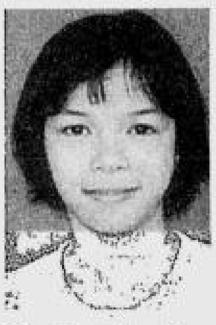
Yanna Jane Paynita, 6



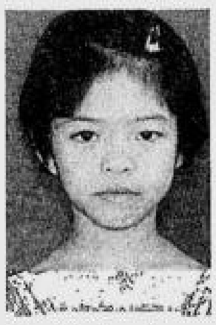
Jonalyn Casayas, 5



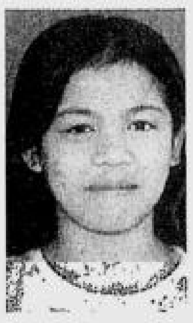
Romel Rapilo, 8



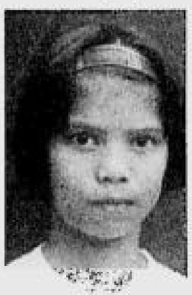
Gina Gonzales, 11



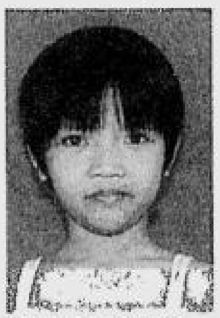
Kim Aberion, 6



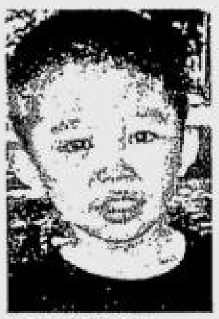
Diana Magaso, 11



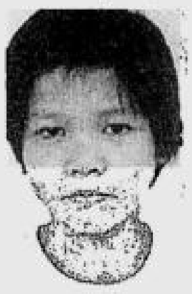
Catherine Bautista, 11



Jonah Angeles, 6



Kenneth John Paynito, 7



Jenelyn Almora, 6

Abalos laughs off talk of bribe from Jancom

By Christian V. Esguerra

WHEN garbage czar Benjamin Abalos Sr. flew to Hong Kong from April 24 to 26 while controversy hounded the Jancom contract, he was hounded in turn by speculations that he went there to deposit in a Hong Kong bank a supposed bribe he allegedly accepted for recommending the approval of the deal to President Macapagal-Arroyo.

But Abalos, chair of the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority, yesterday denied accepting any bribe from the garbage firm.

"*Ang cheap ko naman* (That would make me cheap)," he said yesterday with a laugh while reacting to the speculations.

He said he went to Hong Kong to invite investors in a billion-dollar infrastructure project aimed at decongesting Metro Manila of buses and terminals.

Abalos said he was invited to speak before bankers and investors on the problems and opportunities in infrastructure in the Philippines.

ABALOS

In the process, he was able to "attract" several Asian and European businessmen to assess — and hopefully invest — in the MMDA's intermodal terminal project, he said.

"Many were interested," he said. "They were only concerned with the peace and order situation in the Philippines. But I told them that not everything they read in the newspapers is true."

The project hopes to decongest Metro Manila of over 3,000 provincial buses going in and out of terminals mostly located in Cubao, Monumento, and Pasay, according to him.

He said the MMDA would transfer these terminals to peripheral areas of Metro Manila. A pilot terminal that will cater to buses operating in provinces in the north will be constructed in Marilao in Bulacan.

The project will coincide with the planned interconnection of the Metro Rail Transit and the Light Rail Transit systems, which will provide a wide loop of elevated railroad tracks all over the metropolis, according to the MMDA head.

"With the project, provincial buses won't have to use terminals in Metro Manila and thereby worsen the traffic situation," he said.

Abalos said the MMDA intends to complete the project within five years.

Role of victim's husband, lover in taxi slay probed

By Alcuin papa

THE ESTRANGED husband and the alleged lover of Teresita Syquioco, who was found shot dead inside a taxi in Makati last week, are the primary suspects in the killing of the businesswoman, Makati police said yesterday.

Investigator PO3 Juvenal Barbosa said police will probe into the possible involvement of Syquioco's husband, Jose Syquioco, and her alleged lover Edgardo Jose in her killing.

"As part of standard procedure, both are primary suspects until we find more evidence to clear them," Barbosa said.

But he was quick to add that police do not have evidence to charge any of the two men with Syquioco's killing.

Syquioco, 44, of Manggahan, Pasig, was killed inside an R&E taxi (PWM-632) in Makati City on Tuesday afternoon. Taxi driver Romeo B. Canlas reported the murder to the police.

Investigators said Syquioco was shot twice in the neck by one of two unidentified suspects.

Makati police had arrested Jose last April 25 during Syquioco's wake at the Dulce Funeral Homes in Manila. But his arrest was based on an arrest warrant for an adultery case Syquioco's husband had filed against him.

Syquioco was also named respondent in the adultery case.

Judge Jose Morallos of the Pasig City Regional Trial Court branch 70 issued the warrant.

Police said Jose had already been released from custody after questioning.

Syquioco's husband had told police he was willing to cooperate in the investigation. Police said he is due to give his statement after his wife's burial.

The Syquiocos were locked in a court battle over the division of their conjugal property following their separation seven years ago.

Police said Syquioco was scheduled to attend a hearing on the case the day after the shooting.

Police are also verifying statements made by witness Amador Balba, a barangay official of Barangay Manggahan in Pasig, who claimed she saw Syquioco and Jose at the Robinson's Galleria mall earlier on the day the woman was killed.

Jose was Syquioco's driving instructor. The two allegedly became lovers and were sued for adultery by Jose after he discovered their relationship, police said.

Jose allegedly secured a copy of his wife's warrant of arrest the day before she was killed, police said.

Balba said he saw Syquioco and two unidentified men board the R&E taxi last Tuesday. Taxi driver Canlas told police the two men had identified themselves as policemen from Crame. One of the men shot Syquioco twice while the taxi was on C-5 Road, Canlas told police.

He said they ordered him to drive to Makati. On Kalayaan Avenue, they told him to get off the taxi, Canlas said.

The taxi, with Syquioco still inside, was later found abandoned on J.P. Rizal Extension.

A police sketch of one of the suspects had already been released, police said.

Lies, says WPP chief

By Michael Lim Ubac

SENIOR State Prosecutor Leo Dacera, head of the Witness Protection Program (WPP), spoke up for the first time on Friday to deny accusations that he failed to act on the rape complaint that a government witness filed against one of his men.

In a letter to the INQUIRER, Dacera said the claim that the witness left the program on April 2, "because I failed to act on her complaint and even mocked her," was a lie.

"So is her allegation that I dissuaded her and was partial to the security officer (accused of raping the witness)," Dacera said. "The fact is she was advised that, considering the gravity of the reported offense, she had to submit her complaint in writing so that it can be properly pursued."

He admitted the witness had told him that WPP security officer Gerry Lintan raped her on March 26 in a safehouse in Quezon City.

The housewife, 29, claimed the rape happened in an apartment where she, another witness, and their respective families were being housed.

The witness, her husband and their 4-year-old son decided to leave the program on April 2 on account of the incident and moved to a small apartment.

But Dacera said that instead of formally filing charges against Lintan, the witness returned to his office only to follow up her relocation payment.

"(She) did not submit her written complaint," he said. "Nonetheless, as a preventive measure, the concerned security officer was disarmed and restricted to the Cordillera Autonomous Region on the very date she complained."

On April 22, Justice Secretary Hernando Perez suspended Lintan, alias Rustom Yap, from the service.

Dacera said the WPP coverage of the witness and her family was terminated as early as Aug. 28 last year.

He said this was based on the recommendation of the monitoring section on March 5 last year, which alleged that the threat to her had been greatly reduced with the arrest of the man who allegedly killed her father.

On March 4 this year, she was served a notice of termination of her WPP coverage, based on the results of a periodic review and a second threat assessment.

On April 1, the witness complained about the sexual advances of Lintan and requested that her coverage be extended with full benefits.

"She later changed her mind and asked for relocation assistance," Dacera said. "Recognizing her immediate financial need I advanced her P5,000 ... to be deducted from her relocation assistance. Her request was formally approved on April 16."

Dacera assured the public that the alleged rape incident was "an isolated incident which should not undermine the government's earnest efforts to secure bona fide qualified witnesses."

UST testimonial dinner for new lawyers

FORMER Sen. Victor Ziga, president of the US Law Alumni Foundation Inc., is calling on all 2001 successful bar examinees from UST to attend the testimonial dinner in their honor tonight at 7 at the UST Faculty of Civil Law lobby at the UST Main building on España, Manila. Please call UST Law at 731-4027 to confirm your attendance.

DRUG TESTING CENTER OPERATORS

Land Transportation Office chief Roberto Lastimoso (sixth from left) joins operators of accredited drug testing centers and officials of the group Prism Code during the recent signing of a memorandum of agreement at the LTO Quezon City office.

The teacher as writer of books

By Cecile Garcia,
Contributor

AMACHA Feliciano never imagined that becoming a teacher would one day lead to being an author of books.

According to her, she decided to be a teacher because she felt it would be easier for her to help her children in their studies. "I wanted to have first-hand knowledge of teaching," she says.

Feliciano is an AB English Studies graduate of the University of the Philippines. Her first teaching job was with St. Scholastica's College (Marikina) where she taught Language and Reading to students in Grades 3 to 6. She was with the school for four years.

In March 2000, she moved to MSA Academic Advancement Institute where she continues to teach English on pre-school to college levels. She says switching from a regular school to a tutorial center wasn't easy, and it took her some time to adjust.

Shortly after joining MSA, she was faced with a challenge she did not expect. "In a way, I guess I was prepared," she says, "because though I was happy teaching, I felt that before making it a lifetime career, I owed it to myself to try something else in another field. Maybe I could be a writer or an editor."

When Feliciano expressed this desire to her boss, she was surprised at the response. "What if you can teach and write at the same time," said her boss.

Reviewing

Her initial venture into authorship was writing review workbooks for MSA. The first one, an UPCAT reviewer, was in corroboration with her boss, Ms Alferez. Feliciano has since done 16 review books on her own, and has devised a system as far as preparation and actual writing are concerned.

"Usually, I go over and read established books on the subject at hand, I pick up ideas from them and also from feedback I get from students who have taken the test previously," she explains.

Though review books are more or less technical, creativity does come into play, particularly in the reading comprehension portion, she says. "This draws out your style," she remarks.

Last year, Feliciano started writing books for pre-schoolers. "These are activity books," she explains. "The first one I did was Reading Basic Sight Words. It features activities built on sight words. The objective is to unlock the child's vocabulary."

So far, she has written six pre-school books, the latest being on science preparation. "I'm now doing one on pre-school math," she says.

Appealing

Writing these books is challenging, she says. "The challenge is how to make them appealing and interesting to children," she declares. "I make sure the books carry varied activities. I also weave in stories which are either based on personal relationships or are pure fantasy."

Artwork and graphics should be attractive and appropriate, she says. In this aspect, she coordinates closely with an artist.

For the content or text, Feliciano does the research herself, finding material for her books. Children, of course, are a wonderful source. Feliciano consults her own children, getting ideas and suggestions from her three daughters, aged 13, 11 and 5. But she gathers insights and tips from other children as well: nieces and nephews, offspring of relatives and friends and students at MSA.

Because these books are for children, it's important to be aware of their points of view and their feelings, she says.

Poetry

Among the books she has done, Feliciano considers reading (for kindergarten students) her favorite. "It's a big one, 264 pages," she says. ``Maybe I'm biased because I'm an English teacher and English is my forte."

Still, teaching a child how to read, especially from zero, is tough, she says. But nothing can beat the feeling of gratification that comes with knowing that she has succeeded, she says.

READING LESSONS are given by Feliciano to one of her pupils.

Though deadlines are a driving force, Feliciano says she is largely motivated by a desire to see her ideas captured in print. But she feels differently about her poems. "I've been writing all my life," she confesses. "I write poetry. But I don't know if I want my works published."

In any case, she maintains that because writing is abstract, a writer would find fulfillment in seeing the finished product, speaking for her self, Feliciano goes on to say that seeing the reality, the result of sweat, blood and tears gives her an utmost high and for a fleeting moment, a sense of immortality. "I can understand why almost every writer dreams of writing a book."

Writing and teaching, according to Feliciano are compatible and can co-exist. She believes being a teacher is a big help. She says,. If you're not exposed to teaching, you won't be able to discern what material is relevant. Also, your training as a teacher comes in handy in devising questions that can stimulate and challenge the child."

Excelling

In a way, writing books is just the other side of the coin. "As a teacher, it puts to a test what I have learned and what I know." Certainly, it is more difficult and more challenging than teaching, though the demands of teaching can be awesome.

Since she is committed to both, Feliciano would like to keep on with her two careers. As a writer, she says her long-term plan is to complete MSA's series of books for pre-school students, and to expand her knowledge so that she can be a better teacher. She's pursuing her MA at the State University.

She would like to excel in both writing and teaching. "They are complimentary," she says. "As I teach and interact with my students, I learn more about their different needs, their likes and dislikes. I learn about things I can use in the books I write."

Ex-child star in carnap try

By Nelson F. Flores

POLICE arrested a former child star on television in the 1980s after she reportedly tried to steal the car of a businessman in Quezon City yesterday.

Vanessa Sugar Benedicto, 25, of Cainta, Rizal, formerly of the TV soap "Ana Lisa," was arrested by members of the Central Police District Office Station 8 on Ortigas Avenue near the corner of Lanuza Street where she was cornered by the owner of the car that she allegedly tried to steal.

Benedicto did not resist arrest, police said.

Police said that shortly after 11 a.m. yesterday, Benedicto allegedly tried to steal the car, a white Toyota Corona (TRW 704) owned by Noel Gomez, a car trader from Quezon City.

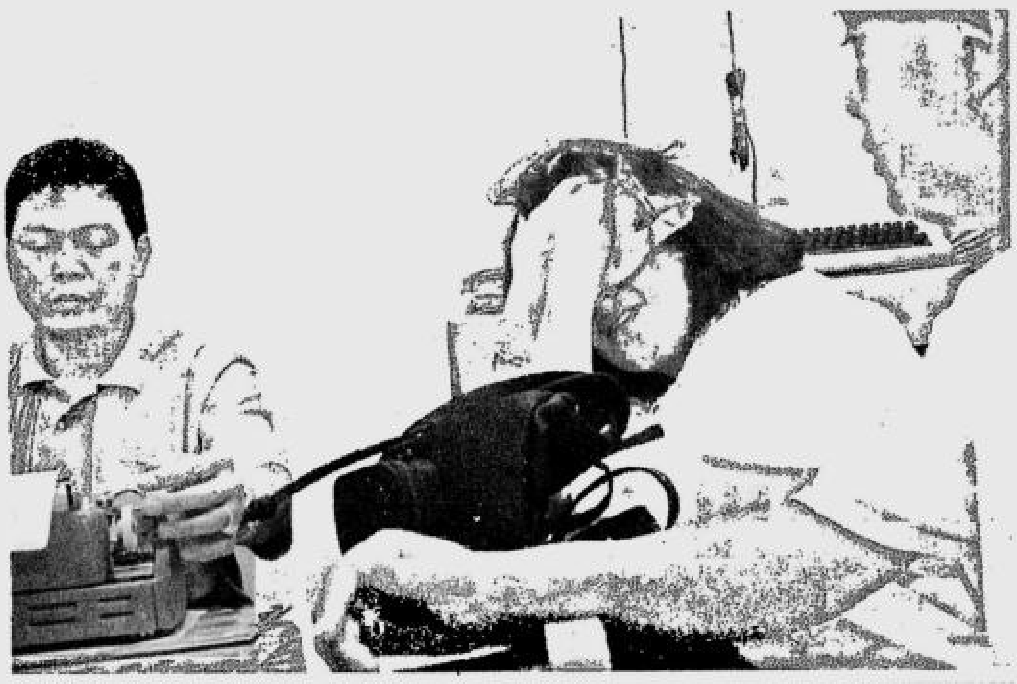
SPO4 Willie Mangundacan, CPDO Station 8 chief investigator, said Benedicto came to Gomez about 10 a.m. posing as a car buyer. Gomez accompanied Benedicto in test-driving the car. While they were parking the car near Gomez's house, Benedicto said she liked the car, according to police.

Benedicto asked Gomez to have all the documents on the sale of the car copied in a nearby shop, the policeman said. When Gomez stepped out of the car, Benedicto suddenly drove off, the policeman said.

"With the help of a neighbor who happened to pass by, the victim was able to follow the suspect and cornered her in a busy portion of Ortigas Avenue," the policeman said.

At the police station, a tearful Benedicto sought Gomez's forgiveness. She said she decided to steal the car so she could sell it to finance the operation of her sick eight-year-old son, according to police.

Gomez decided to press criminal charges against her anyway, police said.


RANDY HORMILLOSA

BENEDICTO and car owner Gomez (right) are questioned by CPD Station 8 policeman.

For a change, tourist gets help

By Philip Tubeza
and Edson Tandoc Jr.

JAPANESE tourist Hanyu Akira, 49, now has both good and bad memories of Filipinos.

Akira, billeted at Rm 311 Tropicanas Apartment Hotel on Guerrero Street in Malate, Manila, lost nearly P30,000 worth of cash and jewelry to three robbers on Friday night in Malate, Manila, said Chief Insp. Marcelino Perozo, chief of the Western Police District general assignments section.

But a Good Samaritan, rent-a-car driver Antonio Tagaguin, 54, came to the aid of the Japanese tourist and helped capture one of the suspects, Alvin Ahad, 32, of Malate, Manila, police said.

The two other suspects ran off with Akira's P12,000 18k gold bracelet and an 18k gold necklace also worth P12,000 and P3,900 cash, police said.

Akira had just withdrawn cash from an ATM machine and was walking along Pedro Gil Street when the three suspects suddenly appeared at 7:30 p.m. Friday, police said.

Although the suspects were unarmed, the Japanese was not able to fight back. He told police the suspects grabbed his hand and held him by the neck. Fortunately for the Japanese, Taganguin, of Quezon City, did not hesitate to help Akira.

Police said Taganguin pounced on the suspects, but managed to grab Ahad only. The two others escaped with Akira's jewelry and money.

Ahad was brought to the WPD headquarters for questioning but he refused to name his companions, police said.

Taganguin accompanied Akira to the police station and even acted as interpreter for the tourist during Ahad's interrogation.

Police later charged Ahad with robbery before the Manila Prosecutor's Office.

Akira will fly out of the country on Wednesday, according to police.

Annual Awards Night

MANAGER OF THE YEAR
Manila Bankers Life Insurance Corp. board chair Gonzalo "Lito" Puyat II (second from left) presents a trophy to Romeo Galeos Jr., manager of the year, during the recent MBLIC annual awards night at the Holiday Inn Resort at the Mimosa Estate in Clark Field, Angeles City. With them are marketing head Hector Barrios (left) and MBLIC president Uriel Balboa. Forty other underwriters received the President's Award during the affair.

Pasay schools to move

By Christian V. Esguerra

THE WOES of nearly 20,000 Pasay City students to be displaced by the Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminal 3 may soon be over. The education department and the Bases Conversion Development Authority "agreed in principle" to transfer at least four schools in Villamor to a "suitable relocation site" within the area, according to Pasay Councilor Allan Panaligan.

Panaligan said "there's no need to worry" since the BCDA had already agreed to have the schools transferred to a 3- to 3.5-hectare property in Villamor.

Quoting BCDA officials, the councilor said the new site will ensure a "conducive learning atmosphere," as required by the Education Department.

Students at the Pasay City South High School, Philippine State College of Aeronautics, Villamor Air Base Elementary School, and St. Therese Parochial School recently went up in arms when told that their schools will be moved to a flood-prone area in Villamor.

The proposed transfer will give way to the widening of Manlunas Street, which will serve as an access road to the new airport terminal. Panaligan said the BCDA was willing to delay the road project until the relocation is completed in 2004.

Costly metal detectors for LRT, MRT

By Abigail L. Ho

SECURITY concerns raised after the General Santos City bombings could cost Metro Manila's railway systems around $35,000 to $40,000, or P1.7 million to P2 million, per station.

Light Rail Transit Authority Administrator Teodoro Cruz Jr. said last week that in view of the bombings, Transportation Secretary Pantaleon Alvarez ordered the purchase and installation of permanent metal detectors at all entrances of the LRT and Edsa Metro Rail Transit-3.

In a telephone interview, Cruz said this was the government's response to the terrorist threat, as well as a way of assuring railway passengers that they are safe riding the trains.

However, Cruz said, security comes at a price. The metal detectors, similar to those found in airports, cost roughly $35,000 to $40,000 each.

"We can't afford to put one per station, but (the transportation secretary) wants us to put one in all the 18 LRT stations," he said. "That would cost too much money to do."

The LRTA is doing a cost-benefit analysis to determine the feasibility of installing these metal detectors.

"What we're going to do is put a sample in the big stations," Cruz said. "We may start with one at the Monumento station. If we can still afford more, we'll also put one at the Central and Baclaran stations."

Funding for the metal detectors will come from LRT's own coffers, he said. The railway's budget will have to be realigned, with certain projects having to give way.

However, Alvarez believed the metal detectors are a "wise investment" as these will, in the long run, save lives and prevent terrorists from inflicting damage on the trains.

While the metal detectors are not yet in place, Cruz said, a 15-man team from the Philippine National Police is making the rounds of the stations and the trains equipped with high-powered firearms and dogs.

Alvarez said railway systems are ideal terrorist targets because these are heavily crowded places with meager security.

Bong Revilla does a Gibson

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Leah Salterio

BONG Revilla Jr. does a **Mel Gibson** in his latest movie, "Kilabot at Kembot," opposite **Assunta de Rossi**. Gibson exposed his derriere in "Conspiracy Theory," with **Julia Roberts**. And that's what Bong also did in his latest starrer.

"I did it for a change," Bong offers. "If others can do it, I can do it, too. In this business, you have to re-invent yourself."

"Kilabot at Kembot" earned an R-18 rating from the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board (MTRCB). "But I'm sure if my wife (**Lani Mercado**) saw it, she would give it an 'X' rating," Bong says.

Even his sister **Andrea Bautista** was shocked after watching "Kilabot at Kembot." "She couldn't believe I could do it," he says.

He says "Kilabot at Kembot" is his sexiest movie to date. "In the past, I couldn't even wear trunks onscreen. The only time I remember when I wore trunks was in 'Manong Gang' with **Dina Bonnevie**, several years ago. And they were not even skimpy trunks.

"But I prepared physically for 'Kilabot at Kembot.' From the time I did 'Final Answer' with **Rufa Mae Quinto** last year, I already started losing weight for this movie."

"Kilabot at Kembot" is the initial offering of the newly resurrected Imus Productions, which he and his six siblings recently revived.

Bong's father, Sen. **Ramon Revilla**, started producing movies with "Nardong Putik," initially for Cavite Pictures, a business venture of the elder Revilla with his friends at the Bureau of Customs where he first worked.

In 1973, Revilla put up his own outfit and launched Imus Productions with the box-office hit, "Pepeng Agimat." Revilla starred in, wrote and directed the movie.

The project was followed by over 30 other films, including "Tiagong Akyat," Nardong Putik 2," "Pepeng Kuryente" and "Kapitan Eddie Set." Box-office records showed all the films of Imus Productions in the past were certified blockbusters. The outfit stopped producing movies in 1989 with "Cris Cuenca."

'K at K' Bong Revilla and Assunta de Rossi

Bong also did a movie for Imus Productions, "Sa Dibdib ng Sierra Madre," where his romance with Lani blossomed on the set.

The new logo of Imus Productions shows two tigers facing each other, representing Bong and his father.

"My dad's code name on CB radio before was Tiger," Bong says. "I also used it as my radio call sign. The tiger also represents strength and superiority, which I believe are the characteristics of our family. We will fight to the end without fear."

On top of the logo is a crown with seven stars, representing the seven children of the senator and his late wife Azucena -- **Bong, Marlon, Princess, Andrea, Strike, Rowena** and **Dianne**.

Bong says Imus Productions will not do movies only for him. Its next project is "Ang Galing Galing Mo Babe," starring Albert Martinez and Joyce Jimenez and directed by **Ed Palmos**.

"Kilabot at Kembot" will open on May 29, the 18th birthday of Bong's youngest sister Dianne.

Richard's successful gambits

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

SOME people thought that, after **Richard Gomez** had gotten married to **Lucy Torres** and started to pay more attention to business, sports and his golf tournament, show biz had pretty much seen the last of him as a performer. But Richard has surprised his nay-sayers by making a big comeback in the movies, and changing TV studios to launch two new television shows.

How has Richard managed to pull off this "sleight of career?" By being himself. On "S-Files," he doesn't try to look younger than his age. In interviews, he doesn't hide the fact that he's a hubby and a daddy, and in fact proudly talks a blue streak about it.

Richard's ace is that he's still a looker despite the passage of some years, and he's developed his various potentialities into capabilities that keep viewers in a constant state of surprise. Other stars who are no longer in their 20s quickly go to pot or become lazy, playing pretty much the same role in film after film.

In his movie with **Regine Velasquez**, Richard opted to *not* play a hunk and portrayed a relatively ordinary fellow who wore his heart on his sleeve, and was willing to take the low blows that life gave him, because he would at least learn something from them.

And now, on "S-Files," he knows how to ask the right, probing questions, the ones the audience itself would want asked, even if the stars he's interviewing are good friends of his.

So, while other maturing and married male stars are feeling the pinch, Richard has a flourishing career in entertainment. The only relative dud among his many new gambits is his trying to pass himself off as a singer. Well, he's only human!

Star channels back

LAST April 17, the Star Group, SkyCable, Home Cable and provincial operator PCC agreed on the settlement of past debts and terms for the distribution of five Star channels on the Philippine cable systems. The channels are ESPN, Star Sports, Star Movies, National Geographic and Star World.

This is good news for these cable services' customers, who have had to do without the Star channels for months. Happily, the viewing's more varied on SkyCable these days, with the return of the Star Group's channels.

'Time Out for Mom'

STAR World and ABS-CBN Publishing's Metro Working Mom present "Time Out for Mom," a whole-day symposium for working mothers at the Columbus Room of Discovery Suites on Saturday, May 11, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Features: **Cory Quirino**'s talk on health and fitness; **Maricel Laxa-Pangilinan** on balancing family and career; power dressing courtesy of **Liz Claiborne**; Shiseido on skincare for moms on the go; the use of crafting to build relationships with family members; **An Alcantara** on quality time at work or at home. The symposium will be hosted by **Chiqui Roa-Puno**. Call 637-0266 to pre-register.

'Just Visiting'

QUITE a number of French movies are given a new production in English by Hollywood, but most of them are given new American casts. "Just Visiting" is unique because it's based on a French film, "Les Visiteurs," but has retained two of its original leads in its English version.

The film is a comedy on time travel: A

RICHARD'S/ A30

Florante is back

By Deedee Santa Cruz-Espina,
Contributor

FUNNYMAN Florante in younger days.

"*KAHIT na ako'y singkit, ako'y hindi Intsik. Lalong hindi ako Kano, dahil ang ilong ko'y . . .*"

Silence.

"*. . . Pango!*" the crowd raved, and then laughed.

"*Ako'y isang Pinoy, sa puso't diwa . . .*" Patriotism filled the house.

With quieted spirits, the 30yish or older in the audience listened to the song's every word and line, reminded of their youth, refreshed of the ideals that once occupied their young minds.

The folk-hearted Pinoy couldn't hold back their nostalgia. They remembered the feeling. The original songwriter took the lead down memory lane.

Florante is back. His long absence from the local music scene did not leave the folk Pinoy amnestic about the songs that were very Florante.

That evening tested the water. The audience remembered, singing with him in spontaneity.

'Nanay' and 'Anak'

The song ended. Florante invited the audience to make requests. This way, he said, he would remember what to sing.

"Anak!" shouted one, referring to the Freddie Aguilar classic. The crowd was in delirious laughter again. It was meant to be a joke, of course.

Florante was quick to pick up, saying the song in fact inspired him to write "*Nanay Mo Lang.*" The song, he said, tells us that there is only one mother for every person on earth. Its last line, "*Tanging ina mo lang*" couldn't have said it better. Try singing this line in legato and you'll see the intended pun. You could make it sound like a curse that is very Filipino.

The laughing crowd sang the line in unison and they did make it sound like a curse. The house again reverberated in crazy amusement.

The two-hour performance was a rediscovery of the folksinger. Poetic lyrics and catchy melodies were interspersed with wit and humor, one-liners and antics. The joker in him was a revelation to many, especially to those who have not watched him in a live performance.

Street wise

Where do all those come from? "*Sa kalye lang lahat nanggaling 'yan* (They all came from the streets)," he revealed.

Take his comic prelude to the similarly popular, "Pinoy." Making the girls in the house feel good about themselves at first, he narrated, "*Magaganda ang mga Pinay. Ang pisngi, kulay makopa. Ang labi, lasang makopa. Ang ilong, hugis makopa.*"

Most guessed right the last two words. The girls' grinning faces suddenly wore wrinkled noses. But Florante got away with it as he praised the beauty of the Filipino woman when he sang his way into the refrain, "*Sadyang magaganda ang mga Pinay.*"

Perhaps a Florante Joke Book would be in order.

The show was not mixed with something not Filipino, as the night helped the people in the house recall some of the songs that touched them years ago. "Sepulturero," "Bugtong," "Abakada," "Upuan," "Kahit Konti," and "Sana" spoke once again of protecting one's position, of respecting other people's space, of hope for love to rule the world, of education as a road to development, among others.

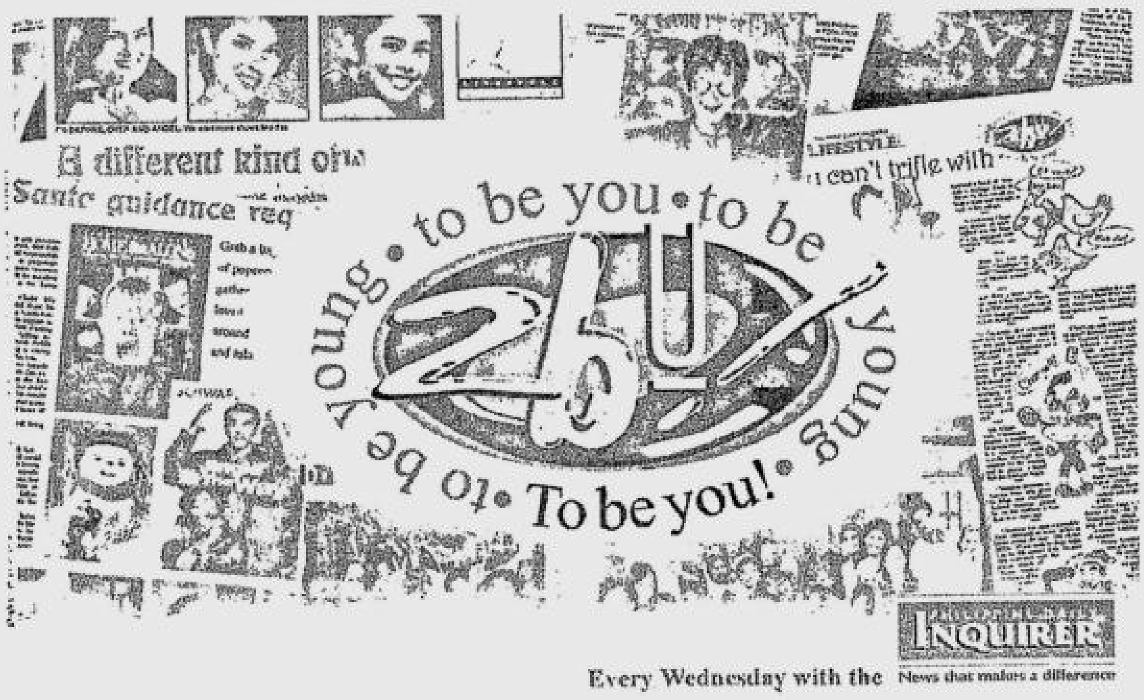
Folk hero

No one spoke of politics that night, at least for two hours. It was a respite, but it also showed that after so many years, the stories in the songs were still very much socially relevant.

One couldn't help but ask, "Has anything changed around us?" The answer is perhaps better discussed during sober moments. The night was meant to be just a night with Florante, the folk hero.

Everything happened at My Bro's Mustache, a little corner in Quezon City where people revisit folk music. On Thursdays in this venue, Florante serves his now grown-up audience a generous helping of his music and antics.

Don't be surprised when you see him, as he has put on a little weight, and his forehead has grown a little wider. Even a legend is bound to age, but very gracefully.



A different kind of
Santa guidance req
I can't trifle with
2bU
to be young • to be you • to be young • to be young • To be you!

Every Wednesday with the INQUIRER News that makes a difference

THE MAGIC CONTINUES. PRE-BOOK YOUR VIDEO COPY NOW TO GET A FREE HARRY POTTER GIFT ITEM* OR A SPECIAL PRICE DISCOUNT!

Harry Potter
AND THE SORCERER'S STONE
P425 VHS
P425 VCD
P1,200 DVD

VHS and 3-disc VCD comes with footages never seen.
The 2-disc DVD set contains the movie, special features and games!
Visit any of the participating video retail outlets: Astrovision, Enchanted Video
Global Video, Music One, Spectra, Tower Records, Video City & Video Quest

SM CINEMA

SM Dial-A-Movie Tel. 633-9999
NOW SHOWING

SM CITY BACOOR
4173860
1 SNOW DOGS
2 I AM SAM
3 SCORPION KING
4 RETURN TO NEVERLAND
5 SCORPION KING
6 S2PID LUV
7 MASARAP BA ANG BAWAL
8 ROLLERBALL

SM CENTERPOINT
7149522 -7161416
1 I AM SAM
2 SHOWTIME
3 SCORPION KING
4 DEVIL'S MASK
5 SCORPION KING
6 S2PID LUV
7 ROLLERBALL
8 BLADE 2
9 RETURN TO NEVERLAND
10 IKA7 GLORYA

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
9350749
1 SNOW DOGS
2 BLADE 2
3 I AM SAM
4 SCORPION KING
5 RETURN TO NEVERLAND
6 S2PID LUV
7 SCORPION KING
8 ROLLERBALL
9 MIMIC 2
10 MASARAP BA ANG BAWAL
11 MONTE CRISTO
12 CROSSROADS

SM CITY MANILA
5239240
1 SCORPION KING
2 SHOWTIME
3 RETURN TO NEVERLAND
4 ROLLERBALL
5 I AM SAM
6 SCORPION KING
7 DEVIL'S MASK
8 BLADE 2
9 S2PID LUV
10 SNOW DOGS
11 MONTE CRISTO
12 SCORPION KING

SM MEGAMALL
6331901 • 6329401
1 SCORPION KING
2 DEVIL'S MASK
3 ROLLERBALL
4 SCORPION KING
5 RETURN TO NEVERLAND
6 I AM SAM
7 SHOWTIME
8 MONTE CRISTO
9 S2PID LUV
10 SCORPION KING
11 BLADE 2
12 SNOW DOGS

SM CITY NORTH EDSA
9295452
1 DEVIL'S MASK
2 SCORPION KING
3 SNOW DOGS
4 S2PID LUV
5 I AM SAM
6 RETURN TO NEVERLAND
7 SCORPION KING
8 ROLLERBALL
9 CLOSED
10 CLOSED
11 CLOSED
12 CLOSED

SM SOUTHMALL
8066888
1 SCORPION KING
2 I AM SAM
3 ROLLERBALL
4 RETURN TO NEVERLAND
5 SHOWTIME
6 MASARAP BA ANG BAWAL
7 S2PID LUV
8 SCORPION KING
9 SNOW DOGS
10 BLADE 2

SM CITY CEBU
2313876
1 BLADE 2
2 TIME MACHINE
3 EVIL WOMAN
4 MIMIC 2
5 BLOW DRY
6 MASARAP BA ANG BAWAL
7 S2PID LUV
8 SCORPION KING

SM CITY ILOILO
3209422
1 BLOW DRY
2 CLOSED
3 TIME MACHINE
4 BLADE 2
5 QUEEN OF THE DAMNED
6 SCORPION KING
7 CLOSED
8 EVIL WOMAN

SM CITY PAMPANGA
7128015
1 SHOWTIME
2 SCORPION KING
3 SCORPION KING
4 MASARAP BA ANG BAWAL
5 MONTE CRISTO
6 S2PID LUV

SM SUPER CTR. SUCAT
8294975
1 RETURN TO NEVERLAND
2 SCORPION KING
3 S2PID LUV
4 ROLLERBALL

SM CINEMA GUADALUPE
8820984
1 ARAY
2 ROLLERBALL
3 SCORPION KING

SM CINEMA TUTUBAN
2514302
1 SCORPION KING
2 ROLLERBALL
3 S2PID LUV
4 I AM SAM

SM CITY DAVAO
2976998
1 SCORPION KING
2 JOHN Q
3 WE WERE SOLDIERS
4 MIMIC 2
5 MAJESTIC
6 MONTE CRISTO

SM BICUTAN
1
2
3
4
SOON TO OPEN!
4 NEW
STATE-OF-THE-ART
VISION & SOUND

SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO
1
2
3
4
SOON TO OPEN!
4 NEW
STATE-OF-THE-ART
VISION & SOUND

THE PODIUM
18 ADB Avenue, Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City
1
2
SOON TO OPEN!
2 NEW STATE-OF-THE-ART VISION & SOUND

6389781-85

Movies are subject to change without prior notice

AYALA CINEMAS NOW SHOWING

YOUR 24 HOUR LINK TO ALL AYALA CINEMAS • 729-7777

All Digital Sound

G1 Great Price (GLORIETTA 1)	G4 (GLORIETTA 4)		GB1 (GREENBELT 1)	ATC (ALABANG TOWN CENTER)
1 RETURN TO NEVERLAND	1 RETURN TO NEVERLAND	4 SNOW DOGS	1 BEFORE NIGHT FALLS	1 THX SCORPION KING
2 I AM SAM	2 SCORPION KING	5 ROLLER BALL	2 SCORPION KING	2 I AM SAM
3 ROLLER BALL	3 THX SCORPION KING 12:05 pm/ 2:10/ 4:15/ 6:20/ 8:25/ 10:30 GUARANTEED SEATS	6 I AM SAM	3 I AM SAM	3 RETURN TO NEVERLAND
4 SCORPION KING		7 SHOWTIME	4 Onstage	4 SCORPION KING
				5 ROLLER BALL

MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION

MOVIE GUIDE
NOW SHOWING
EMAIL: mmta@asia.com

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72
1 (DDD) ROLLERBALL
2 (SDDS) SCORPION KING
3 (DTS) SHOWTIME
4 GOLD (DTS) SCORPION KING
5 GOLD (DOLBY) I AM SAM
6 GOLD (SDDS) RETURN TO NEVERLAND
7 GOLD (DOLBY) RETURN TO NEVERLAND
8 S2PID LUV
9 SNOW DOGS
10 BLADE 2

Pearl Plaza Cinemas
(Parañaque) tel. 853.4486
1
2
3 (DTS) DEEP END
4
5
6 (DTS)
Golden Pearl THX

Masagana CINEMA
(Pasay) tel 833.3274
1 PISTOLERO
2 SCORPION KING
3 ROLLERBALL

starmall Movies
(Shaw Blvd.) tel 724.4986
1 SCORPION KING
2 I AM SAM
3 DEVIL'S MASK
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL) ROLLERBALL
5 S2PID LUV

METROPOLIS star
tel 850.4285
1 S2PID LUV
2 MASARAP BA ANG BAWAL
3 PISTOLERO
4 SCORPION KING
5 HOTDOG
6 ROLLERBALL
7
8

PREMIERE CINEMA THX
(Makati City) TEL. 751-2010 TO 13
1 RIPPER

Center Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007
1 S2PID LUV
2 E.T.

FCM FAIRVIEW CENTER MALL, INC.
tel 930.9515
1
2 EVANGELINE KATORSE
3 APDY SA MAGDAMAG

Spring
(Libertad, Pasay City) tel 831.7864
1
A

Sunshine
(FTI, Taguig) tel.838.4301 loc. 3376
1 SCORPION KING
2 ROLLERBALL
3 S2PID LUV
4 MASARAP BA ANG BAWAL

GOTESCO CINEMA

Gotesco City
(Manila) tel 734.8588
1 (DOLBY) SCORPION KING
2
3
4 PISTOLERO
5 DEVIL'S MASK
6 I AM SAM
7 (DTS) SCORPION KING
8 (SDDS) ROLLERBALL
9 (DOLBY) RETURN TO NEVERLAND

Gotesco Caloocan
tel 362.3508
2 PISTOLERO

Gotesco Grand Central
(Caloocan) tel 364.3781
1 S2PID LUV
2 PISTOLERO
3 RETURN TO NEVERLAND
4 (SDDS) SCORPION KING
5 MASARAP BA ANG BAWAL
6 (DOLBY) ROLLERBALL
7 (DTS) SCORPION KING
8 HARI NG SELDA
9 RIPPER

Gotesco Commonwealth
tel 951.0083
1 (DTS)
2
3
4 MASARAP BA ANG BAWAL
5 (SDDS) SCORPION KING
6 S2PID LUV
7 (DOLBY) ROLLERBALL
8 RETURN TO NEVERLAND

Gotesco Ortigas
tel 656.6795
1 RETURN TO NEVERLAND
2 I AM SAM
3 (DTS) ROLLERBALL
4 S2PID LUV
5 (SDDS) SCORPION KING

Universal
(Manila) tel 733.2470
1 SCORPION KING

Sampaquita
(Cubao) tel 911.7888
1 SCORPION KING

Dilson
(Manila) tel 734.7724
Dilson PISTOLERO
Lords HAYOP SA SEX APPEAL
Jennet

MARKETPLACE Mandaluyong
tel 533.3851 / 533.3856
1 SCORPION KING
2 ROLLERBALL
3 ICE AGE

Prima
(Pasig) tel 641.1215
3

Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto
SUPER CINERAMA
tel 733.4238
1 (DOLBY) SCORPION KING
2 RESERVE
3 PISTOLERO
4 RESERVE
5 CLOSED

New Divisoria Mall
DIVISORIA CINEMA
tel 244.4619
1
2
3
4
5
6

FRC Cinema
Talaba Bacoor Cavite
1
2

Berma
tel 879.2029
1 SCORPION KING
2 RUSH HOURS

CitiMall
(Parañaque) tel 820.7269
1
2

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa Laguna)
tel (049) 534.2185 / 534.2198
1 SHOWTIME
2 S2PID LUV
3 (DTS) SCORPION KING

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383
1 RETURN TO NEVERLAND
2 (DTS) ROLLERBALL
3 (DOLBY) SCORPION KING
4 SHOWTIME

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146
1 ROLLERBALL
2 (DOLBY) SHOWTIME
3 (DTS) SCORPION KING
4 RETURN TO NEVERLAND

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771
1 S2PID LUV
2 SCORPION KING
3 SOON TO OPEN
4 SOON TO OPEN

Cinema 2000 MetroTown
(Tarlac) tel(045) 982.1729
1 S2PID LUV
2 ICE AGE
3 (DOLBY) SCORPION KING
4 (DTS) TIME MACHINE

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276
1 (SDDS) ROLLERBALL
2 MASARAP BA ANG BAWAL
3 HINOG SA PILIT
4 (DTS) SCORPION KING

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202
1 (DOLBY) SCORPION KING
2 ROLLERBALL
3 (DTS) SHOWTIME
4 PAROLA
5 S2PID LUV

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883
1 ROLLERBALL
2 SCORPION KING
3 SHOWTIME

Olivarez Los Baños
tel (049) 249-2558
1 SCORPION KING
2 ROLLERBALL
3 RETURN TO NEVERLAND

Olivarez Tagaytay
tel (046) 413.0311
1 SHOWTIME
2 S2PID LUV
3 ITLOG

Morales Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.9736
1 MIMIC 2
2 RESERVE
3 SHOWTIME

Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 531.4808
1 (DTS)
2 (DTS) SCORPION KING

Fourstep
(Cavite) tel (046) 416.2385
1

Emperor
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657
1 PAROLA
2 S2PID LUV
3 SCORPION KING

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790
1 S2PID LUV
2 TIME MACHINE
3 COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO
4 E T

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03
1 (DOLBY EX) COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO
2 S2PID LUV
3 (DTS) SCORPION KING
4 SHOWTIME

*Movies are subject to change without prior notice

ADVANCED SCREENING THX DOLBY DIGITAL dts SDDS

CMG INTERNATIONAL
[illegible]

PREMIERE CINEMA THX NOW SHOWING!

RIPPER

MOVIEWORLD

CINEMAS
@ Robinsons Malls

NOW SHOWING

Galleria
632- 9115- 16
633- 7641 loc. 279
1 THX SCORPION KING
2 SCORPION KING
3 DEVIL MASK
4 I AM SAM
5 RETURN TO NEVERLAND
6 ROLLERBALL
7 SNOW DOGS
8 MONTE CRISTO
9 BLADE 2
10 SHOWTIME

Ermita
536 -7809- 12
1 SCORPION KING
2 BLADE 2
3 ROLLERBALL
4 DEVIL MASK
5 SHOWTIME
6 RETURN TO NEVERLAND
7 I AM SAM

Metro East -
Marcos Hway 682- 8193 / 8280
1 I AM SAM
2 ROLLERBALL
3 SCORPION KING
4 RETURN TO NEVERLAND
5 SNOW DOGS
6 SHOWTIME
7 ICE AGE
8 BLADE 2

Novaliches
935- 3229 - 30
1 SCORPION KING
2 E.T.
3 RETURN TO NEVERLAND
4 I AM SAM
5 ROLLERBALL
6 E.T.
7 S2PID LUV
8 SHOWTIME

Imus
471- 8188 / 875- 3838
1 SCORPION KING
2 CROSSROAD
3 ROLLERBALL
4 RETURN TO NEVERLAND
5 I AM SAM
6 S2PID LUV

Bacolod
441- 0453 / 0459
1 SCORPION KING
2 CROSSROADS
3 ICE AGE
4 EVIL WOMAN
5 S2PID LUV
6 MIMIC 2

Iloilo
336- 8077 - 78
1 SCORPION KING
2 BLADE 2
3 EVIL WOMAN
4 TIME MACHINE
5 BLOW DRY
6 MASARAP BA ANG BAWAL

Star Mills-
San Fernando, Pamp. 875- 1927
961-5318 / 5270
1 MASARAP BA ANG BAWAL
2 SCORPION KING
3 MONTE CRISTO
4 SHOWTIME
5 RIPPER
6

malabon citisquare-
soon to open.

Late Night Screening
on
April 26 & 27, 2002
Friday & Saturday -
11:00 p.m. @
Robinsons
Movieworld
Galleria

how-2-reach-us:
email: htc@netasia-mnl.net
http://www.robinsonsmovieworld.com
call-a-movie 536- 7812

MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

Richard's successful gambits

From page A28

French nobleman (**Jean Reno**) and his servant (**Christian Clavier**) find themselves in modern-day Chicago, transported from the 12th century due to a wizard's flawed potion.

The new players in "Just Visiting" are **Christina Applegate** and **Malcolm McDowell**. She plays a museum curator who is the spitting image of Reno's girlfriend back in France, and he's cast as the clumsy wizard.

In the course of adapting the French original, the story evolved and the project became a new movie, with changes in locations and the addition of new scenes, characters and plot twists.

But, being Europeans coming to work in America, Reno and Clavier retained the authenticity of their roles as misplaced Frenchmen. After its evolution, the new film is a confrontation between Old World France, and the completely modern world of Chicago, USA.

Movies on Cinemax

PROMISING films on Cinemax this May: Wednesday, May 1 at 6:30 a.m., "James Dean." At 11:45 a.m., "Being John Malkovich." At 8:30 p.m., "The Screaming Room: The 10 Scariest Films Ever Made, Part 1."

Thursday, May 2 at 11:30 a.m., "Cinema Secrets II, EP. 6: When In Rome." 5:30 p.m., "Running on Empty." 1:50 a.m., "The Collector."

Friday, May 3 at 10:30 a.m., "The Nun's Story." 4:15 p.m., "Sorry, Wrong Number."

Saturday, May 4 at 11 a.m., "Scarface." At 1:45 p.m., "Rosemary's Baby."

Sunday, May 5 at 7:30 a.m., "Angela's Ashes." 1:15 p.m., "The Secret Garden." 7 p.m., "American History X."

From Jesuit Communications

FOLLOWING the success of its previous book releases, "Weaving a Dream" and "With New Eyes," Jesuit Communications presents "Bringing the Imitation of Christ Into the 21st Century" by **William Meninger**, OCSO. The book preserves the spirit of Thomas a Kempis' immortal classic and speaks to today's reader about the enduring values of humility and poverty, and the eternal grace of God.

POWER PLANT
CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41 DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND EX

SNOW DOGS - GP 12:45, 2:55, 5:05, 7:15, 9:30	SCORPION KING- P 13 1:20, 3:30,5:40, 7:50, 10:00	RETURN TO NEVERLAND - GP 12:20, 2:10, 4:00, 5:50, 7:40, 9:30
ROLLERBALL - R 18 1:30, 3:35, 5:40, 7:45, 9:50	SHOWTIME - P 13 1:05, 3:15, 5:25, 7:35, 9:45	I AM SAM - GP 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 10:00

MATINEE P80.00 - FREE SEATING - SCREENINGS BEFORE 5 PM - MON. TO FRI.

THEATRE MALL
GREENHILLS
a landmark reinvented!
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND EX
NOW SHOWING

CINEMA 1 SCORPION KING
12:35, 2:35, 4:35, 6:35, 8:35, 10:35
P13

CINEMA 2 I AM SAM
11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00
GP

Matinee: P80.00 - Screenings before 5:00pm, Monday thru Friday (Free Seating).
Reserved Seating: P120.00 - After 5:00pm: Saturday, Sunday, Holidays.
GREENHILLS SHOPPING CENTER, ORTIGAS AVENUE, GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA • 7224496

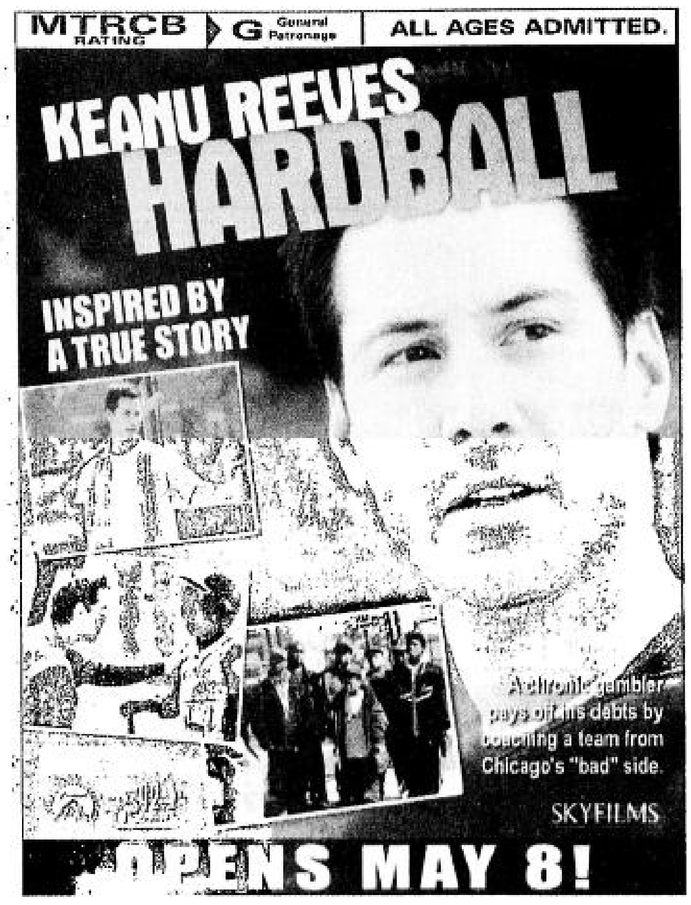
MUSIC MUSEUM
MUSIC MUSEUM MAY 4, 2002 (ALLAN K.) KNA K KA NA BA? REPEAT 9:00 PM/
MAY 11 REGINE ON TOUR (Regine Velasquez) 9:00 PM
FOR INQUIRIES & RESERVATION: PLS. CALL: 721-6726 OR 721-0635

OPENS ON WEDNESDAY
Exclusively at the following theaters only:
POWER PLANT CINEMA * GLORIETTA 4 * SM MEGAMALL
SM MANILA * ROBINSON'S GALLERIA and ROBINSON'S ERMITA

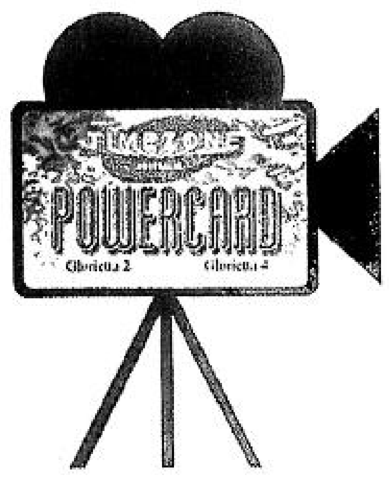
A POTION PUT THEM IN THE OCEAN!
HELP! I'M A FISH
SKYFILMS

MTRCB RATING G General Patronage ALL AGES ADMITTED.

MTRCB RATING G General Patronage ALL AGES ADMITTED.


KEANU REEVES
HARDBALL
INSPIRED BY A TRUE STORY
A chronic gambler pays off his debts by coaching a team from Chicago's "bad" side.
SKYFILMS
OPENS MAY 8!

MORE POWER MORE MOVIES



BUY OR RELOAD A P500 TIMEZONE POWERCARD AND GET 2 FREE G1 MOVIE TICKETS INSTANTLY!

The New G1 Cinemas Rated GP Great Price
AYALA CINEMAS

All digital sound, more food choices, more luxurious seats, and a fully-renovated lobby & interior. All at one great price. All at the new G1 cinemas.

"?"Promo period is from April 11 to May 31, 2002
Per DTI NCR Permit No. AL-221 Series of 2002

Go for the Ultimate Spin!
OPENS MAY 3
in the philippines & the U.S.A.
MTRCB RATING G General Patronage ALL AGES ADMITTED

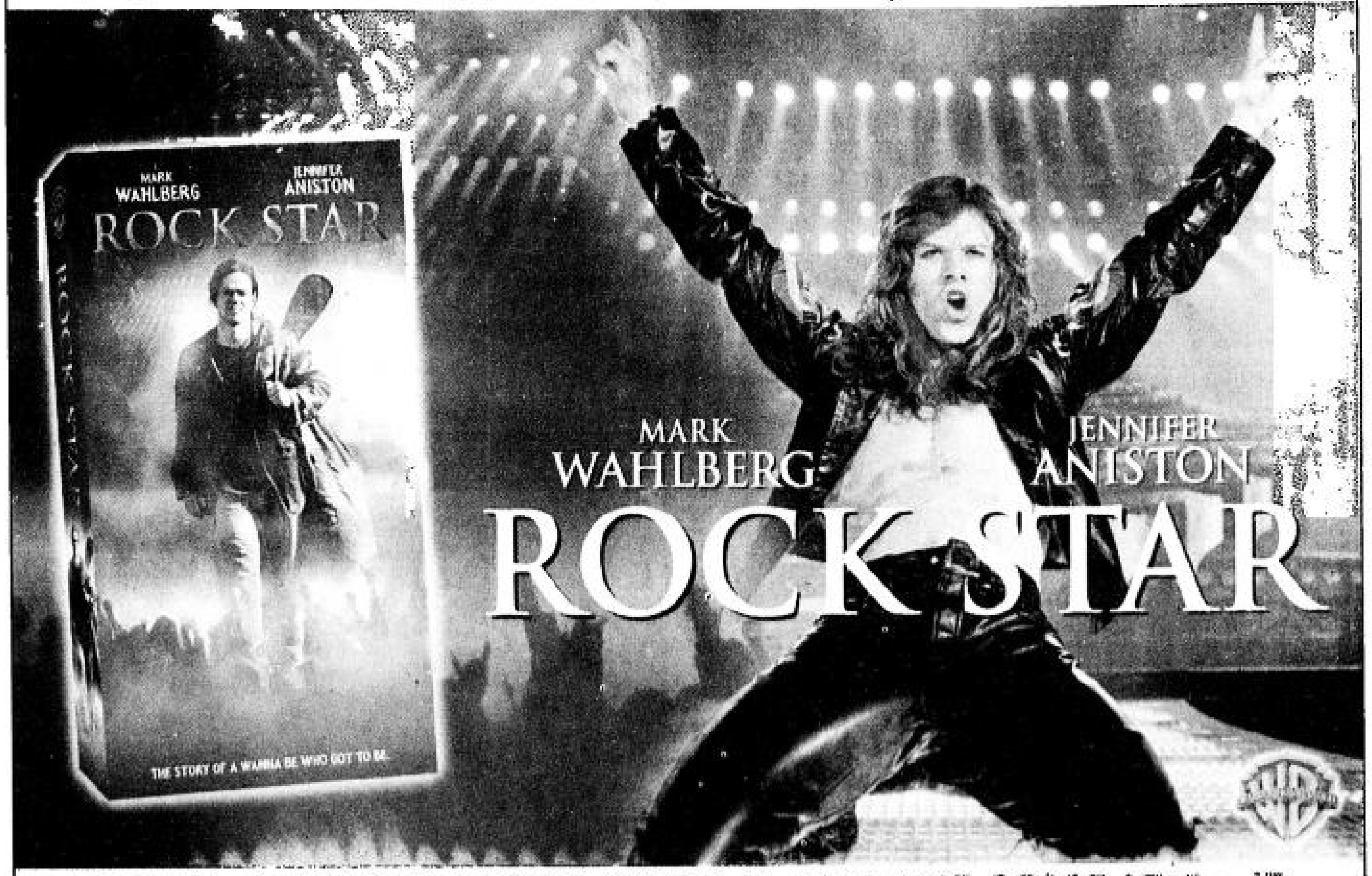
SPIDER-MAN
MARVEL
sony.com/Spider-Man

Distributed by COLUMBIA PICTURES

THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

ARANETA CENTER THEATERS 911-3101	
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-1	S2PID LUV
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-2	SCORPION KING
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-3 (DDS)	ROLLERBALL
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-4 (SDDS)	SCORPION KING
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-5 (DTS)	RETURN TO NEVERLAND
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-6 (DOLBY)	DEVIL'S MASK
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-7 (DOLBY)	I AM SAM
FARMERS PLAZA-1 (DOLBY)	MASARAP BA ANG BAWAL
FARMERS PLAZA-2 (DOLBY)	SCORPION KING
FIESTA CARNIVAL	
NEW FRONTIER	
MANILA	
EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	HALIK SA LUPA / SUGAR AND SPICE
ODEON	SCORPION KING
ODEON-2	ITLOG
ROBEN	MASARAP BA ANG BAWAL
TANDEM-1	ITLOG
TANDEM-2	IKA-7 GLORYA
TIMES	BEHIND ENEMY LINES / SUPREME SUNCTIONS
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	CLOSED
ACT-4	CLOSED
CORONET-2	ORIGINAL SIN
QUEZON-1	MASARAP BA ANG BAWAL
REMAR	MASARAP BA ANG BAWAL
REMAR-2	SCORPION KING
NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA	
A	SCORPION KING
B	MASARAP BA ANG BAWAL
C	PISTOLERO
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	SCORPION KING
CINEMA-2	RETURN TO NEVERLAND
CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	IKA-7 GLORYA
CINEMA-2	SHOWTIME
CINEMA-3	MASARAP BA ANG BAWAL
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	SCORPION KING
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	SNOW DOGS
CINEMA-6	ICE AGE
CINEMA-7	COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO
CINEMA-8	E.T.
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	SCORPION KING
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	SCORPION KING
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	ROLLERBALL
CINEMA-12	RETURN TO NEVERLAND
CINEMA-14	I AM SAM
CINEMA-15	S2PID LUV
LORES	
CINEMA-2	CLOSED
CINEMA-3	CLOSED
POWER PLANT CINEMA	
CINEMA-1	SNOW DOGS
CINEMA-2	SCORPION KING
CINEMA-3	RETURN TO NEVERLAND
CINEMA-4	ROLLERBALL
CINEMA-5	SHOWTIME
CINEMA-6	I AM SAM
UNIWIDE METROMALL	
(LAS PINAS)	
CINEMA-1	
CINEMA-2	
CINEMA-4	
UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARANAQUE)	
CINEMA-1	ALIPIN NG TUKSO
CINEMA-2	THE OTHER SIDE OF LOVE
CINEMA-4	ALAMID

NOW AVAILABLE ON VCD, DVD & VHS



A HEAD-BANGING STORY OF FAME AND THE PRICE IT TAKES

ENTERTAINMENT

Editor **Louie C. Camino**

My man must earn my mom's respect

KRIS AND TELL

Kris Aquino

IS THERE ever a comfortable balance between having a right to a private life while earning your living from a very public medium?

Some celebrities would like to believe that what they owe the public are credible and consistent performances, and what goes on in their personal life is nobody's business but their own. In an ideal world that would certainly be the case, because we'd all be able to live and let live.

A blessing and curse in our culture is that we "adopt" show biz personalities and make them a part of our extended families. A perfect example was our insatiable curiosity about the **Rico Yan-Claudine Barretto** love story. People felt they had a right to an opinion, and they had their version of the "real score." We forgot to respect the fact that Rico and Claudine did share a special love, and whatever led to their letting each other go was their business alone.

In many ways, I've gone through similar "judgment." People who aren't even that close to me, who aren't blood relatives or intimate friends, feel it's their right to come up to me and say, "I've been hearing rumors about you. I don't approve, I hope it's not true." A few who are a bit closer can be so straightforward as to say, "Is it true *na kayo na*?" Those who mean well say, "Aren't you afraid of getting your heart broken again?"

One of the most amusing queries came from **Josh**'s dad who, without batting an eyelash, said, "*Anong sasabihin ng* mommy *mo*?"

Honesty

The most prudent action would be to remain quiet. Hold your tongue and just let the rumors die down. Yet, as I've always maintained, silence is tantamount to admittance, and I'd prefer be judged based on facts, rather than hearsay. If you form an opinion whether favorable to me or against me, at least form it based on the real score, not second- or third-hand, oftentimes exaggerated, information.

Honesty comes at a price, but a lie that's later unmasked will just bring about recriminations. A denial not based on facts, no matter how well rehearsed, will eventually unravel. If you start with the truth, no matter how badly that may be twisted against you, it can never be altered.

Yet, as much as I value my career—and I appreciate how much the audience has given me back—there are more important things, or, more accurately, there's an opinion I value more.

My mom's peace of mind is very important to me. I know that I have a right to happiness, and just like her "The Buzz" birthday wish for me, my mom really hopes and prays that I'll end up with someone who loves me "to death" and cares for me, respects me, and accepts me for all that I am.

My quota

I also know that she wants that love to come under the right circumstances. As I've said to my *Ate*, I've broken my mom's heart once, and in my lifetime I've already used up my quota.

There's a big difference in my level of maturity today as opposed to eight years ago. Experience, after all, is the best teacher.

My relationship with **Ipe** started off on the wrong footing. He was separated, though still legally married, and nowhere near having his annulment granted. I went for the here and now, and I turned a blind eye toward the future that we'd have together.

Josh is paying the price for my immaturity and impulsive disregard for what was reasonable, because he's growing up without an intact family.

Crossroads

Without going into unnecessary details, I was at a crossroads this past week. Should I move forward and go with my feelings knowing the complications, or should I take a step back, temporarily letting go? Is there really such a thing as "just dating"?

I do have hindsight to guide me this time around. Nobody, especially my family, pressured me or cast harsh judgment on me. That's because I told them the truth.

My mom in particular just told me that she was praying for me and that she loves me and wants what's best for me and Josh. She didn't belittle my needs.

Because I was trusted, no matter how difficult it might have been, I was encouraged to do what in the long run is best for me. And I decided with our collective future foremost in my mind.

My man

The man I will spend my life with, whoever he may be, apart from having my unconditional love, needs to earn my mom's respect. That's non-negotiable as far as I'm concerned.

If you know what my mom and I have been through, then you'll understand why that's so important to me. Of course, I wish that the man would eventually have my mom's affection, but the first step is to win her respect. We aren't spending our lives with her, but I need her to give her blessing to the most important union I'll be making.

In the past, I felt that my feelings didn't matter and I was told that I was too immature to know what was good for me. But my mom was able to now give me the biggest gift a child could ever ask for: She gave me the freedom and the trust to make my own decisions.

I know that we have to prove that we're prepared to do what's right, no matter how difficult it is. I'm old enough to know that love isn't a game. Love and commitment go hand in hand. But both parties need to be free to make that commitment.

Real love

I used to think that for a relationship to work, you just held on regardless of the risks involved. But love flourishes only under a positive, supportive environment. If you have faith that it's love in the purest sense of the word, then it's worth all the effort and initial sacrifices you'll undergo to reach the point when you can be together, under the right circumstances.

Sometimes, to have a lasting relationship, you must recognize the need for a time-out to fix what needs to be fixed.

•If and when things fall into place, and you're both physically, emotionally, and psychologically there together, then it must really be love.

Who wouldn't be willing to go through the unselfish sacrifices to reach an ending like that of "An Affair to Remember" (of course, minus the wheelchair), as opposed to the short-lived passion and the tragic ending of "The Bridges of Madison County?"

Intelligent choice

Love is worth waiting for. I'd never have recognized this as true had I not gone through all the challenges, the loneliness, and the pain of the past three years that I've been on my own. And if it will require much effort and going through many obstacles to reach our goal, then maybe what will be the result will be for keeps.

My family and friends have reminded me that I shouldn't treat love as a cage. After all, I'm single. They've told me enough times that only after exploring all options would I know what choice is truly best for me.

Nobody wants to be lonely. We all want to be loved and share our lives with someone we can have a home and a family with. Nobody has the right to begrudge me my happiness if I now go about attaining it without any shortcuts, and if I now travel the road that I hadn't taken and avoid the one I'd already been through.

In everything in life, what you've worked hardest to achieve is what you'll protect and cherish the most.

Biting into 'Buffy'

By Oliver Pulumbarit
Contributor

REVIEW

ONE of the best shows on TV, this mid-season replacement has grown into an archetype for other fantasy dramas to emulate.

The critics noticed it first. Then the fans followed suit. The first time I heard of "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" was a decade ago, when it was an obscure movie starring Donald Sutherland, Luke Perry, and then- unknowns David Arquette, Hillary Swank, and Kristy Swanson (as Buffy Summers).

I never saw that. The next time I heard about the "Chosen One" was in 1997, when it was reincarnated for the small screen. I had reservations, as clips showed clunky special effects and un-gothic vampires. A year or so later, upon the suggestion of a friend who noticed its good writing, I checked it out.

Was I hooked!

It's like reading a superbly-crafted mainstream comic book. It doesn't talk down to the reader, or, in this case, the viewer. The underlying mythology is as huge as the X-Files', minus the clutter. Sarah Michelle Gellar and the ensemble cast believably capture the quirky yet familiar characters that inhabit the creature-infested town of Sunnydale, California.

Creator Joss Whedon's "school is hell" metaphor draws largely from his experience, focusing mostly on developing the characters' growth in every episode. He has controlled the show's direction for six years as executive producer, head writer, and occasional director. His writing credits include, among others, "Roseanne," "Alien Resurrection" and "Toy Story" (which earned him an Oscar nomination).

Buffy is a character that hails from the classic ordinary-person-becomes-hero mold, not unlike Luke Skywalker, Frodo Baggins, or Spider-Man. She carries the burden of power and often saves the world despite her own life's troubles.

She is aided in her quest by a tight circle of friends, the Scooby Gang. This includes Willow the witch (Alyson Hannigan), Giles the former Watcher (Anthony Stewart Head), and all-around guy Xander (Nicholas Brendon).

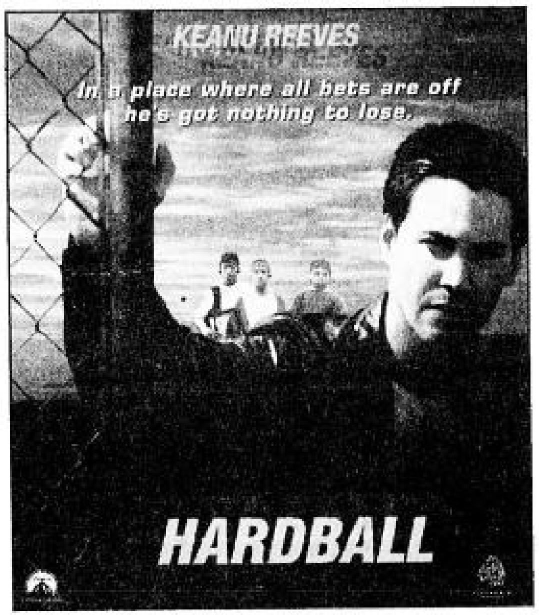
As the seasons progressed, many characters that joined the group by osmosis have become resonant to fans as well. Among them: Buffy's first love Angel (David Boreanaz), ex-vengeance demoness Anya (Emma Caulfield), Willow's lovers Oz and Tara (Seth Green and Amber Benson), Buffy's soldier boyfriend Riley (Marc Blucas), opinionated rich girl Cordelia (Charisma Carpenter), rookie Watcher Wesley (Alexis Denisof), fill-in Slayers Kendra and Faith (Bianca Lawson and Eliza Dushku, respectively), and reluctant ex-baddie Spike (James Marsters).

"Buffy" can be appreciated on so many levels: the stories, the action, the figurative representations, the rich continuity. The devoted global following has caused the spawning of the spinoff "Angel," which tackles the mission of "saving lost souls". Brooding vampire hero Angel, a psychic Cordelia, and a demon-hunting Wesley investigate macabre cases in Los Angeles.

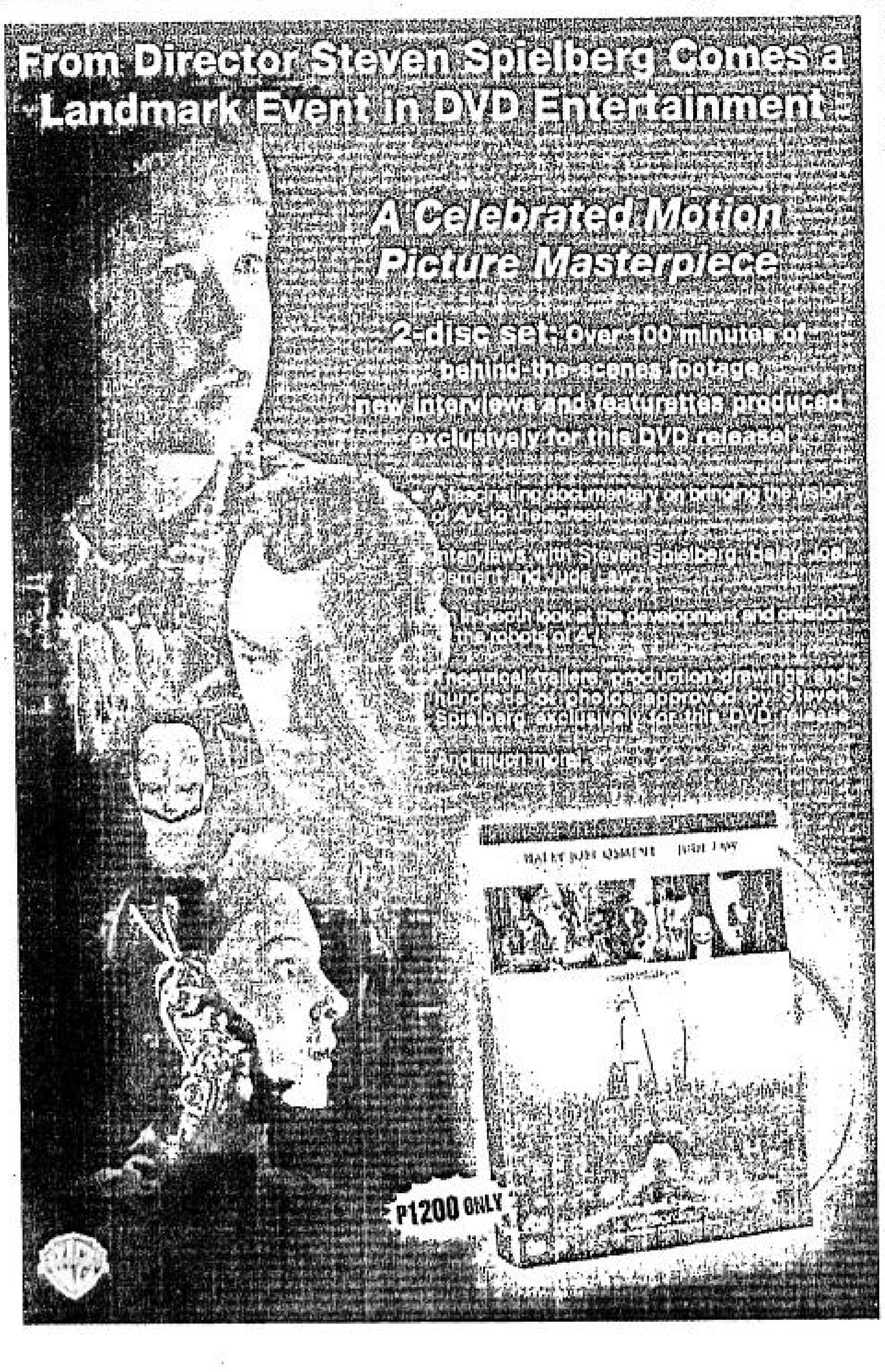
A slew of smart fantasy dramas like "Roswell," "Dark Angel," and "Smallville" have achieved successful fan interest, thanks to "Buffy." Pop culture references, un-Dawson-esque witticisms, breathtaking stunts, mature humor—the Slayer's show has it. The characters don't whine, the special effects constantly improve, and a diverse bestiary of the undead (from the creepy to the ungothic) have graced every episode.

I'd buy the DVD's of seasons one (12 episodes) and two (22 episodes) if I had a DVD player (and the money, of course). The hard-to-find Moore action figures are must-haves as well. But since I can't have my hands on them (yet), I'll just turn to my weekly fix of the fifth season of the show, and the second season of "Angel." Buffy versus Dracula! Angel sings "Mandy" in a demon karaoke bar! [illegible]ding!

See it first!
SM CINEMA
ADVANCE SCREENING


KEANU REEVES
In a place where all bets are off he's got nothing to lose.
HARDBALL

MTRCB RATING: GP
Invitational Snack Studio Inc. Screening on
April 29, 2002 • 7:30 pm
SM Centerpoint Cinema 7
Regular showing on May 8 at the SM CINEMAS.


From Director Steven Spielberg Comes a Landmark Event in DVD Entertainment
A Celebrated Motion Picture Masterpiece
2-disc set: Over 100 minutes of behind-the-scenes footage, new interviews and featurettes produced exclusively for this DVD release!
A fascinating documentary on bringing the vision of A.I. to the screen
Interviews with Steven Spielberg, Haley Joel Osment and Jude Law
In-depth look at the development and creation of the robots of A.I.
Theatrical trailers, production drawings and hundreds of photos approved by Steven Spielberg exclusively for this DVD release
And much more!
P1200 ONLY

FROM THE MAKERS OF THE MUMMY AND THE MUMMY RETURNS!
WARRIOR. LEGEND. KING.
THE ROCK
THE SCORPION KING
The Scorpion King original soundtrack is now out on CDs and casettes. Featuring the hit single "I Stand Alone" By Godsmack.
NOW SHOWING AT ALL AYALA CINEMAS
AYALA CINEMAS

NOW SHOWING @
GREENBELT CINEMA
Javier Bardem
Olivier Martinez Andrea Di Stefano
Johnny Depp & Sean Penn
"'Before Night Falls' is rapturous, intoxicating filmmaking!.. Don't miss it! Javier Bardem gives a mesmerizing and inspired performance!"
-Rex Reed, New York Observer
"'Before Night Falls' is a potent, visually stunning masterpiece! Javier Bardem gives a riveting, emotionally naked performace."
-Guy Flatley, Interview
MTRCB Rating: Restricted 18 (R) Strictly For Adults
WARNING! This film is unanimously rated R-18 for its adult thematic content which is Homosexuality and scenarios of NUDITY.
AYALA CINEMAS SKYFILMS

BEFORE NIGHT FALLS
"THE BEST FILM OF 2000"

NOKIA
CONNECTING PEOPLE

Create Your Own Story

- Picture Editor -- create your own Picture Messages or Profile Logos
- Timed Keyguard Lock Activation
- 6 Games: Dance2Music+Link 5+Magic Draw+Space Impact+Snake 2+Bumper
- Game Pack Downloads for all 6 Games via WAP
- Animated Profile Logos
- Rhythmic Backlight Alert
- Personalized Text Alert
- Send long text messages (459 characters)
- Phonebook for 150 names and numbers
- WAP Browser with Service Inbox

NOKIA 3350

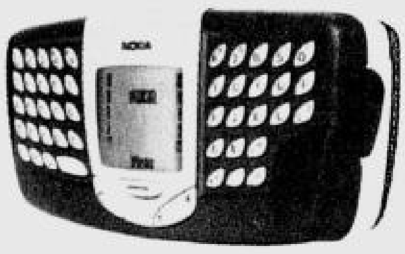
Dressed For Thrills

- Changeable Xpress-on™ Shells
- Protection against water splashes and dust*
- Thermometer, Stopwatch and Countdown Timer
- Picture Editor + Composer
- Calendar with training icons
- Send long text messages (459 characters)
- Animated Profile Logos
- 5 Games: Snake 2+Pairs 2+Space Impact+Bumper+Bantumi
- Rhythmic Backlight Alert
- Game Pack Downloads

** Phone is not waterproof. Please read owner's guide for more information.*

NOKIA 5210

Turn Your World Around



- Send long text messages (459 characters)
- Play up to 2 hours of music in AAC and MP3 digital music formats
- Record music from FM stations, audio CDs, or Internet (MP3)
- Nokia Audio Manager Software helps you record and organize your music library
- 5 Games: Snake 2+Pairs 2+Space Impact+Bumper+Bantumi

NOKIA 5510

Get a free Nokia Carrying Case for every Nokia 5510 Sales Package!

Gear up with a Nokia mobile phone that fits your lifestyle!

Small Size\Big Impact

- New Mobile Wallet feature--allows you to make online purchases via WAP
- Integrated FM Radio with 20 presets
- Dynamic Memory for up to:
  - 500 names with up to 3 numbers per name
  - 150 text messages or 150 Calendar Notes
- Voice Dialling/Voice Recorder & Voice Commands
- Timed Keyguard Lock
- Weekly Calendar View
- Personalized Text Alert
- High Density 96 x 65 pixel Display
- Supports WAP + GPRS + HSCSD services

NOKIA 6510

You'll Want It

- New Design/Tridimensional Look and Feel
- Changeable Xpress-on™ Covers
- Bright White LCD Display
- Integrated FM Radio with 20 presets
- Dynamic Memory for up to:
  - 500 names with up to 3 numbers per name
  - 150 text messages or 150 Calendar Notes
- Voice Dialling/Voice Recorder & Voice Commands
- Supports WAP + GPRS + HSCSD services

NOKIA 8310

The Beauty of Minimalism

- New Metallic Graphite Color
- Longer Standby Time (up to 225 hours) and Talk Time (up to 4 hours)
- Animated Profile Logos
- Keyguard Lock with Personal Security Code
- Personalized Text Alert
- 2-week view Calendar with up to 100 notes
- Rhythmic Backlight Alert
- Send long text messages (459 characters)
- WAP Browser with Service Inbox

NOKIA 8855

Titanium Cased

- Titanium Cover with Grip-Activated Slide
- 84 x 48 White Display with Contrast Control
- Dynamic Memory for up to:
  - 500 names with up to 3 numbers per name
  - 150 text messages or 150 Calendar Notes
- Animated Profile Logo: Analog or Digital Clock
- Bluetooth Support for Headsets and Car Kits
- To Do List, Stopwatch, Countdown Timer, Voice Recorder, Voice Commands & Dialling

NOKIA 8910

Copyright © 2001. Nokia Corporation. All rights reserved. Nokia and Nokia Connecting People are registered trademarks of Nokia Corporation.

www.nokia-asia.com

**The Nokia 8910 will be available soon.*

As an assurance of quality, purchase only from Authorized Nokia Dealers. For inquiries, email us at write_nokia@nokia.com

COMPAQ
Evo N160
Notebook
Unbeatable price & performance
For more info, contact us today!
INTEGRATED COMPUTER SYSTEMS, INC. (ICS)
Tel. 727-3801 Website: www.ics.com.ph

MONDAY
APRIL 29, 2002

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BUSINESS
Editor **Raul O. Marcelo** ◉ *Assistant Editor* **Corrie S. Narisma**

acer
we hear you
INQUIRE HERE: Acer Website www.acer.com.ph
Acer Hotline 302-7777/302-7888

Gov't eyes return to sales tax system

By Clarissa S. Batino

THE DEPARTMENT of Finance, in consultation with former finance secretaries last week, has raised the possibility of dropping the value-added tax system and going back to the sales tax scheme to generate more revenue for the government.

During the agency's 105th anniversary last Thursday, Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho invited former finance ministers and the heads of state financial institutions to help the government come up with solutions to improve tax collection.

The discussion, according to a government official, focused on the effectiveness of the VAT as a taxation tool. In the course of the meeting, the official said that some expressed a preference to returning to the sales tax system.

The former finance ministers who attended the meeting were Cesar Virata, Ramon del Rosario and Ernest Leung.

Compared with the sales tax, the VAT was harder to collect and the leakage was estimated to range from 30 to 50 percent. While easier to collect, the sales tax was seen as more burdensome to businesses and the public because the cascading taxes imposed from the manufacturers to retailers were passed on to consumers.

The government collects less than P100 billion in VAT yearly. The finance department estimated that some P70 billion in VAT taxes were not collected annually, leading to a tax leakage of almost 50 percent, making it one of the more "poorly collected" taxes in the system.

Based on a DOF study using 1998 data, the government should collect about P150 billion in VAT.

Rene Bañez, commissioner of the Bureau of Internal Revenue who was also in the meeting, admitted that a policy shift to a sales tax was brought up as one of the options, admitting that the VAT had its weaknesses.

"While a shift back to sales tax system was mentioned as an option, the discussion focused on how we can improve the VAT system and make it more effective," Bañez said.

The government started collecting the 10-percent VAT in 1988 after the National Internal Revenue Code was amended by the Congress.

Before VAT was imposed, the government collected sales taxes ranging from 5 percent to a little more than 10 percent from the manufacturers to retailers depending on the product.

Margarito Teves, president of Land Bank of the Philippines, said the problem with the VAT system was that it would entail costs before a significant level of efficiency was achieved. The cost of improving the VAT system, he added, might outweigh the benefits.

For a VAT system to fully work, the system must be fully computerized and that a good database must be created. Bañez said the BIR must strengthen the invoicing system because this was where most of the leakage was attributed.

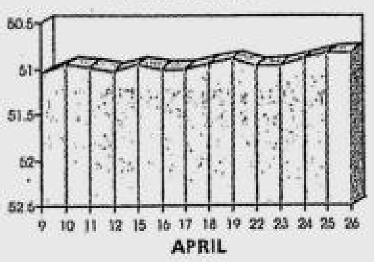
Under the present system, a business could subtract the input VAT it had paid in purchas-

GOV'T/ B9

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES

PESO - DOLLAR



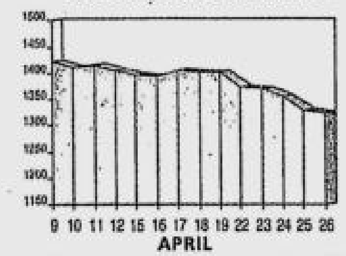
PESO-DOLLAR RATE

P50.823 = $1
As of 5 p.m., April 26, 2002

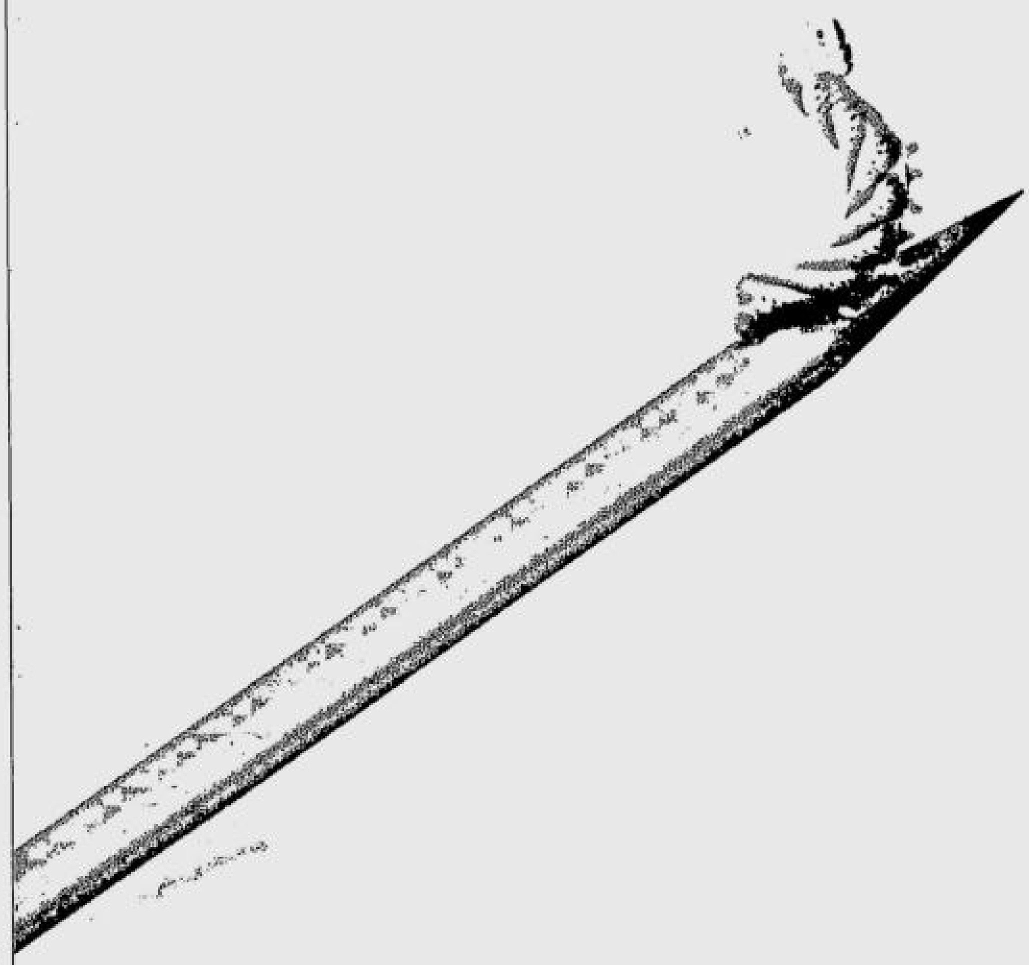
¥128.54 = $1
As of 5 p.m., April 26, 2002

GOLD: $307.10/307.60
per ounce Hong Kong,
April 26, 2002

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX



(See stock market report on Page B6)



Don't put your dream on hold.

In the face of these challenging times, will you stop the clock and wait? Or will you keep going for your dream?

A home. A family. A life.
Enduring dreams, the inspiration behind the Manansala.

The Manansala has well priced studios, one and two bedroom units built for the young and upcoming.
And those who see a bright future just around the bend.

Own a unit for only P 18,000/month

Visit The Manansala model apartments at the Power Plant Mall or at the Rockwell Information Center. For more information, call 890-6888 or 756-5022.

THE
MANANSALA
AT ROCKWELL CENTER

Certificate of registration #03871 and license to sell #04888.

Make
Maybank
your bank.

One of the top 130 banks in the world ●
Among the top 20 banks in Asia ●
Backed by over US$39 billion in assets ●
Present in major countries overseas with over ●
500 branches and representative offices worldwide
The largest bank in Malaysia ●

MEGALINK Member PDIC. Deposits insured up to P100,000.

Maybank
Best Bank in Malaysia
Euromoney Awards for Excellence 2001

Visit any of our over 50 branches nationwide
or call 521-7451.
www.maybank2u.com

Citibank eyes acquisition of local thrift bank

By Clarissa S. Batino

CITIBANK N.A. has asked the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas for a list of savings banks that would be ripe for an acquisition.

On the hunt for a thrift lender with a license to operate a foreign currency deposit unit, Citibank has informed the central bank that it was seriously considering going deeper into retail banking.

Currently the third largest in the country in terms of assets, Citibank is closely competing with HSBC for a stronger grip on the local market. HSBC had acquired PCIB Savings in late 2000 to expand its retail-banking operations.

"Citibank has asked us for a list of the thrift banks with an FCDU license and currently there are 36 of them. It is up to them to take their pick and negotiate," BSP Deputy Governor Alberto Reyes said.

Reyes added that Citibank had expressed a preference for a thrift bank that operates actively in Metro Manila.

BSP Governor Rafael Buenaventura said Citibank would likely go for a small savings bank and simply expand by buying branch licenses being sold by other lenders.

Citibank's strategy, according to the BSP chief, may be similar to what American Express Bank Ltd. had done when it bought Omni Savings Bank and its 11 branches late last year.

Reyes said the Monetary Board had given its final approval to American Express' acquisition of Omni Bank.

The US giant was also granted the licenses to operate an FCDU and a trust business but it would have to comply with the P650-million minimum capitalization being required by the BSP. Its capital adequacy ratio must also not go below 12 percent.

Established in 1919, American Express Bank now operates offshore units in 43 countries. It has a full banking license in 15 countries while subsidiaries in eight others also hold the same privilege.

American Express is also the correspondent bank for 1,400 other lenders worldwide.

"The acquisition of Omni by American Express will definitely be beneficial to the Philippine financial system considering its global expertise," the central bank chief said.

Omni Savings used to be owned by Manila Banking Corp., which had also sold its commercial lending unit, TA Bank, to ABN-Amro Savings Bank. Despite its commercial banking license, ABN-Amro had decided to operate as a thrift lender.

ABN-Amro also bought Great Pacific Savings Bank.

On Citibank, Buenaventura said he was hoping that the global giant would pursue its acquisition soon.

The BSP has renewed its call for local banks to merge and consolidate to boost the health of the financial sector in the face of lingering global uncertainties. It also welcomes the entry of new players.

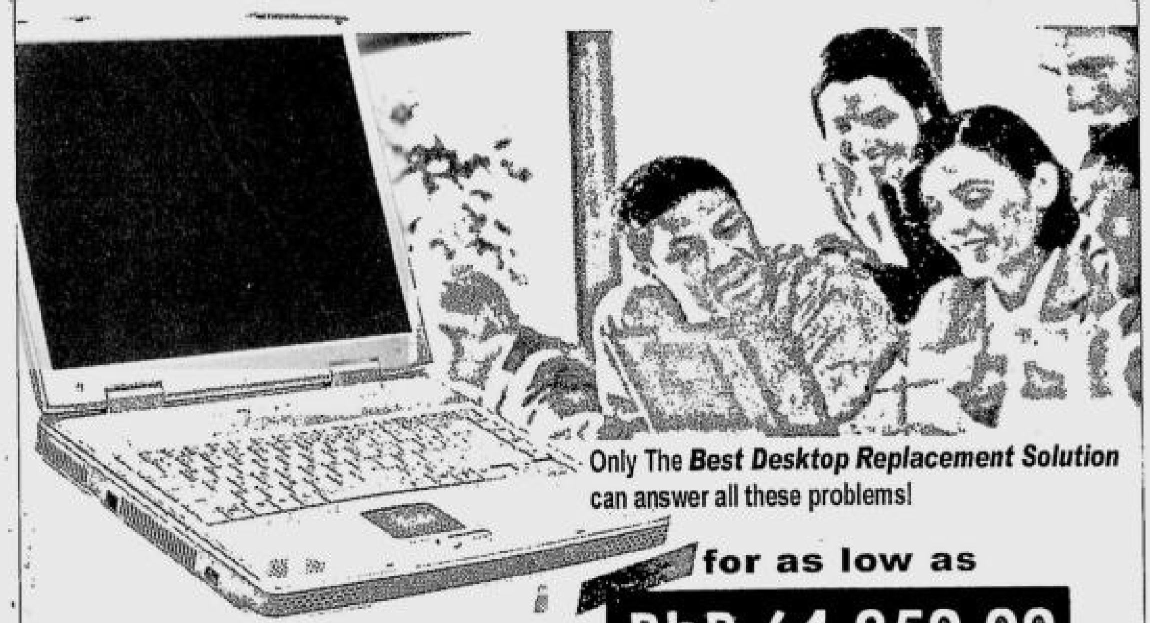
In previous years, the central bank had encouraged banks to merge by requiring them to increase their capital and by imposing a moratorium on new licenses.

Buenaventura wanted banks to merge and consolidate to have stronger banks that would be able to cope with any financial crisis.

When he came in as BSP chief on July 1999, Buenaventura had envisioned that from the present crop, five big banks would emerge that would compete aggressively with foreign banks and eventually grow bigger and compete in the region.

To achieve this objective, the BSP had offered various incentives to encourage more banks to merge and, in the process, strengthen the banking system so that it could withstand shocks similar to the currency crisis that hit Asia in 1997.

There are close to 1,000 banks operating in the Philippines and of these, more than 40 are commercial banks.



Desktops can be portable.
Notebooks can be affordable.

Traditional desktop P.Cs can always be used in your office or at home, but as they are so heavy and bulky, who really wants to move them around?

Only The *Best Desktop Replacement Solution* can answer all these problems!

for as low as
PhP 64,950.00
Suggested Retail Price
For Metro Manila Price only

DeskNote A928
- Intel Pentium 4 1.6 (max 2.8GHhz)
- 15.0" XGA TFT LCD
- 256MB DDR Memory
- 10GB Hard Drive (upgradable)
- 8X DVD-ROM drive or 24X CD-ROM drive + USB FDD
- Internal Stereo Speakers
- Built-In LAN/Modem
- 1 Firewire port, 4 USB-2.0 ports,1 S-Video

DeskNote A900
- 1 Giga Pro CPU
- 14.1" XGA TFT LCD
- 128MB SDRAM (max 512MB)
- 10GB Hard Drive (upgradable)
- 24X CD-ROM drive + USB FDD
- Internal Stereo Speakers
- Built-In LAN/Modem
- 4 USB ports,1 S-Video

ONLY PhP 39,950.00

DeskNote A901
- Intel Celeron 1.1GHz
- 14.1" XGA TFT LCD
- 128MB SDRAM (max 512MB)
- 10GB Hard Drive (upgradable)
- 24X CD-ROM drive + USB FDD
- Internal Stereo Speakers
- Built-In LAN/Modem
- 4 USB ports,1 S-Video

ONLY PhP 43,950.00

Exclusive Distributor:
Axis Global Technologies Inc
www.axisglobal.com

ECS ELITEGROUP
www.ecs.com.tw

MANILA AUTHORIZED DEALERS:
A2000 : San Juan - Tel: 726-6108/722-8340 ; **Accent Micro** SM Megamall/SM North/SM Bacoor - Tel 634-2417/927-7330/(046)502-2248 . **Ace Net, Inc.** Virramall Tel 725-0762/7250758 . **Acrotech Micro Devices** . Sampaloc Manila - Tel 781-8425 to 47 ; **Complink** SM North/Galleria/SM South/SM Bacoor Tel. 920-9140/632-8890/512-9709 . **Computer Farm** . Alabang - Tel. 850-3625. **CD Romania** : Kalipunan – Tel 434-9817. **Dreamchum Computer** Malate/Alabang Boni Serrano/Timog - Tel 800-3687/536-2816 . **ESI** Malate – Tel. 523-4207. **Electroworld** SM Fairview/SM North/SM Manila/SM -Megamall/SM Southmall/Park Square Alabang - Tel 418-6064/927-9525/633-1824/524-7980/8000-404/813-2776/850-9562/772-3254. **Future Shop** . Binondo – Tel. 245-7127 , **Galaxy 8 Computer** Shangri-la - Tel: 637-6100 . **Hands On Computer** : Las Piñas - Tel 543-1028 to 29/871-2031 ; **Hertz Computers** Quezon City - Tel: 920-6227 , **H-Byte Computers** Lipa City - Tel (043) 312-1101 ; **Microstation** Virramall/Galleria/Shangri-la – Tel 721-1252/637-1473/637-2785 . **Netbase Int'l Corp** Shaw – Tel. 533-0486. **NT Computer** SM North/Shangri-la/SM South Mall Tel 927-2579/633-4690/802-0650 . **PC Evotech** Kalipunan - Tel. 433-8849 , **PC Express** Shaw - Tel 726-0698/726-0682 . **PC Madness** Gilmore - Tel 725-0328/724-8472, **PC Options** Gilmore - Tel 415-1488 ; **PC Specialist** Gilmore - Tel:410-3714/723-2960 **PC Supplies** . Parañaque - Tel 825-8759 **Premium Logic** SM Megamall/SM North/SM Manila/Galleria - Tel 687-2136/929-2112 . **Prodata** : Sct Gandia/P. Tuazon/Aurora Blvd - Tel 927-5432/414-4336/414-4347 **Silicon Valley** SM North/Megamall/SM Manila/SM South Mall/Park Square/Alabang Tel 927-5696/633-1723/525-3218/806-0293/812-6734/807-8987 **Total Quality Machines** : Vito Cruz/Taft - Tel 526-4503/536-3245 ; **Universal Computer Systems, Inc.** ; Virra Mall Greenhills - Tel: 721-2407/724-8301 **Villman Computer Systems, Inc.** : Ayala/Pag-asa/West/Cabanatuan - Tel 892-2222/929-0411

PROVINCIAL AUTHORIZED DEALERS:
All Electronics : Legazpi City - Tel (052) 480-0011 ; **CBX** Mandaue City – Tel (032) 346-1461/Cebu - Tel. (032) 254-4724 ; **Concept Computers** : Iloilo Tel (033) 336-2346 . **Computer World Marketing** . Davao – Tel. (082) 221-3752 to 53 , **Computer Zone** : Tarlac City – Tel (045) 982-8855. **Delta** Iloilo Tel (033) 336-3196 **Digivision** : Lucena City – Tel: (042) 660-5443 - **Digital Interface** Davao – Tel. (082) 227-2282. **DC Tech** Davao – Tel (082) 221-2380 **Electronic Data System** Tacloban City - Tel (053) 325-5904 . **Electroworld** Sta. Rosa - Tel (049) 549-1241 ; **IEC Computers** : Bacolod City Tel (034) 433-9472 **Lenton** . Cebu Tel (032) 412-9991 ; **Maya** Dagupan City – Tel. (075) 515-3376 . **PC Shack** Davao – Tel (082) 221-0594 **Silicon Valley** Pampanga - Tel: (045) 961-2225/817-7516/Cebu - Tel (032) 234-0219/Davao - Tel (082) 297-6231/41 . **Unipace Corporation** Cagayan de Oro City Tel (08822) 729-975/726-080 . **Villman Computer System, Inc.** Cabanatuan (Maharlika/Mega Center) - Tel (044) 600-2000/(044) 600-0874

VT45
NEC VT45

NOW SHOWING !!!
THE BEST OF PROJECTORS

•1000 ANSI LUMENS OF BRIGHTNESS • NATIVE SVGA RESOLUTION (UP TO SXGA) • WEIGHS ONLY 2.5KG
• KEYSTONE CORRECTION • REMOTE MOUSE • OPTICAL & DIGITAL ZOOM
• NEW "LENS SHIFT" TECHNOLOGY(ALLOWS "OFF-CENTER" POSITIONING)
• HDTV • COMPONENT VIDEO INPUT • RGB INDEPENDENT ADJUSTMENT • MONITOR OUTPUT
EMPOWERED BY INNOVATION NEC
EXCLUSIVE PHILIPPINE DISTRIBUTOR: PIXLETONE MULTIMEDIA CO., PHILS.
TEL. 726-0119 FAX 727-9710
HOME CINEMA BEST BUY
NEC
EMAIL: pxltone@info.com.ph
tech Awards

UNIVERSITY OF ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS
In cooperation with the Center for Research and Communication

Invites you to special seminars on Financial Economics

INTRO TO RISK MANAGEMENT
Road Map to Risk Management. Identifying and Quantifying Risk Exposures. Measuring and Monitoring Credit/Liquidity Risks. Identifying and Quantifying Operational Risks. Analysis and Operationalization of Risk Management Function
May 21-23, 2002 (8:30am-5:00pm) Fee:P15,000.00

USE OF DERIVATIVES
Corporate Finance Derivatives: Options and Warrants, Convertible Preferred/Debt and Securitization. Treasury Derivatives: Interest Rate Swaps, Currency Forwards
June 19–20, 2002 (8:30am-5:00pm) Fee: P10,000.00

Faculty: *Vincent Ricasio*, M.S.(CRC), MBA(UP), Research Fellow UA&P (with more than 20 years Wall Street experience), *Aarne Dimanlig*, M.S.(CRC), Ph.D.(UC-Sta. Barbara), Research Fellow, UA&P (with actual financial engineering experience in Philippines, *Clemente Colayco*, MBA, AGSB, *Omar T. Cruz*, M.S.(CRC), former President, Citicorp Securities, presently CFO, UA&P, *Natividad Alejo*, M.A.(UP)

Venue is at UA&P Ortigas Center Campus. For BEC members and SBEP students/alumnae, a *10% discount* shall be given. *Additional 10% discount* shall apply for two (2) or more participants attending from the same company.

For more information, please call Ms. Orig Jover at 636-7537 / Mary Grace Borja at 633-7902 / Flor Cruz at 634-2822, or email ejover@uap.edu.ph

AYALA PLANS

Ayala Plans, Inc.
Education & Pension Programs

STATEMENT OF CONDITION

As of December 31, 2001

ASSETS	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	₱ 25,368,533
Investments in Trust Funds	714,422,815
Marketable Securities	122,514,182
Installment Contracts Receivable	2,603,442,293
Other Receivables, net of allowance for probable losses of ₱3,177,980	13,534,424
Property and Equipment-net	187,336,853
Deferred Commissions	308,856,556
Deferred Income Tax Assets	1,777,580
Other Assets	13,750,977
TOTAL ASSETS	₱ 3,991,004,213
LIABILITIES	
Installment Contracts Payable	₱ 101,082,234
Actuarial Reserves Liabilities	728,990,574
Estimated Benefit Provision in Installment Contracts Receivable	1,764,603,079
Unrealized Gross Income in Installment Contracts Receivable	838,839,214
Due to Affiliated Companies	344,171,745
Accrued Expenses and Other Liabilities	82,347,102
TOTAL LIABILITIES	₱ 3,860,033,948
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	
Capital Stock	
Authorized and issued - 100,000,000 at ₱1 per value each	₱ 100,000,000
Reserve for Fluctuation of Marketable Securities	9,433,383
Retained Earnings	21,536,882
TOTAL STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	₱ 130,970,265
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	₱ 3,991,004,213

TRUST FUND STATEMENT
AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2001

Assets	EDUCATION	PENSION
Investments in government securities	227,178,836	337,324,597
Investments in other securities and debt instruments	45,283,539	56,823,436
Investments in shares of stock	10,381,435	21,209,720
Investment in common trust funds	25,775	16,179
Accrued Income	6,588,964	9,029,871
Cash and cash equivalents	71	944,836
	289,458,620	425,348,639
Less Liabilities		
Accrued trust fees payable	212,775	171,669
	289,245,845	425,176,970
Net Equity		
Fund balance, January 1	149,288,553	207,883,849
Additional deposits	119,139,706	186,339,684
Reserve for fluctuation of investments	(1,958,653)	(1,457,675)
	266,469,606	392,765,858
Net Income for the year, net of tax of ₱1,973,433	22,776,239	32,411,112
Fund balance, December 31	289,245,845	425,176,970

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
CITY OF MAKATI)S.S.

We, Romulo F. Alajor and Maria Carmela L. Toribio of the above-mentioned Pre-need Company, do solemnly swear that all matters set forth in the above statement of condition are true and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.

MARIA CARMELA L. TORIBIO
Chief Finance Officer

ROMULO F. ALAJOR
Business Director

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 24th day of April 2001 at Makati City, affiants exhibiting to me their Residence Certificate No. 11692786 issued at Makati City on February 1, 2002 and Residence Certificate No. 00839193 issued at Quezon City on March 13, 2002

ERNESTO S. FERNANDEZ
Notary Public
Until December 31, 2003
PTR No. 6723069 issued at
Makati City on 1/2/02

Doc. No. 233
Page No. 48
Book No. 57
Series of 2002

ABS-CBN mall

COCKTALES

Victor C. Agustin

EVEN the Lopezes are feeling the pinch.

The ground floor of the ABS-CBN corporate headquarters in Quezon City is slowly being transformed into a mini-mall to help pay for the humongous utility/maintenance bills, not to mention the fortune spent to finish the state-of-the-art building.

Already, there are a Cibo and a Starbucks open, with an art gallery due shortly. (A Universal Studios-type of souvenir shop, complete with autographed pictures/posters of ABS-CBN stars, should be a hit.)

There are more than 3,000 employees within the broadcast complex on any given day that patronage is not a problem, even if the forbidding gates of ABS-CBN remain closed to stargazers and the paying public.

According to Jose Ramon Olives, SVP for business development and special projects, the massive, black steel gates and fence of ABS-CBN are being modified to make the complex feel "more open and friendly" to the public.

The new ABS-CBN building plus the studios on the other side occupy an entire block bounded by Mother Ignacia and Sgt. Esguerra, an ideal template for sidewalk cafés and shops that even the likes of Megamall brought life into its windowless, shoe-box buildings.

Now, if they could do something about parking in the area.

Saving Polo Club

STYMIED by lack of membership approval for a long-due increase in membership dues, the cash-strapped Manila Polo Club has decided to impose an additional P1,790/month "special assessment" for four months for each member.

MPC president Policarpio Ascalon said the stop-gap revenue measure was needed since, on top of the P40.6 million in operating loss incurred last fiscal year, the club will have to shell out P8.3 million in higher real estate taxes and another P9.6 million in wage increases this year.

To keep the playground of the rich operating, the club spent P90 million in the last fiscal year. This expense translates to P32,640/member, as against the current "unrealistic" P8,400 annual membership dues, said Ascalon.

The nearby Manila Golf Club, on the other hand, levies its members P60,000 each a year.

Earlier, the MPC board, in what has been dubbed as the Holy Monday Massacre, retrenched the entire food and beverage department of the club, totaling 123 employees, and awarded the F&B concession to Makati Skyline for a guaranteed minimum P1 million/month fee.

The board justified the wholesale firing, saying that in addition to rampant pilferage, the in-house waiters, cooks and bartenders had become "overpaid."

Rock and roll to higher sales

THE Shangri-La's Edsa Plaza hotel is literally rocking and rolling to higher F&B sales with its Friday night RJ and the Riots jam.

In what originally was a one-month stint, Ramon "RJ" Jacinto and his band has now been asked to stretch the Friday gig at the hotel lobby all the way up to November.

The hotel had a total of 430 reservations in last Friday's event, the fourth show that it had to add extra tables and chairs on the balcony overlooking the lobby.

In fact, the entire lobby of the hotel disappears every Friday night because of the overflow crowd.

The Shangri-La management is apparently doubly happy in that the Friday crowd-drawer has also been pulling patrons to schedule their dinner appointments in the hotel's restaurants.

COCKTALES/ B7

NEW ARRIVAL
0917-893-6456
CUMMINS 350HP
MECHANICAL
9 SPEED, SPRING
522-8766

FAX REPAIR
AS LOW AS
P300
FREE ESTIMATE
No need to replace your faulty fax, because we can repair it back to perfection-as only the kings can
KINGS COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES, INC.
KCS
• M-14 Auro-Vir Plaza, 1695 Evangelista St. Bangkal, Makati City
Tels. 894-2309 / 843-6630 / 843-6682
• Rm.201 Columbian Bldg. 160 West Ave. cor. EDSA, Quezon City
Tels. 929-2052 / 929-2054
Panasonic | NEC | Samsung
SANYO | [illegible] | [illegible]
Murata | SHARP | OKI
NISSEI | Canon | OTHERS
CUT THIS AD AND AVAIL OF A 10% DISCOUNT
We also repair Computers

Can't use it?
We'll fix it!
JUST CALL US! WE'LL FIX IT IN A FLASH!
Fax machines • Computers / Monitors • Printers (Laser, Deskjet, Dot Matrix) • Key Telephone System Sets • Answering Machines • Paper Shredders • UPS-AVRs • Typewriters and other office equipment
Panasonic | EPSON | SHARP | OKI | XEROX | SANYO | [illegible] | SAMSUNG | brother | Muratec | Canon
CITIWORLD
BUSINESS MACHINES SERVICES CORP.
One-Stop Service Network
Rm. 109 David I Bldg. 567 Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City Tel. Nos.: 725-7031 / 724-5823 / 723-4894
Makati Office: 3A, Trans-Phil House 117 Chino Roces Ave. Corner Bagtikan St., Makati City Tel. Nos.: 895-1435 / 896-6032

TOSHIBA
MULTIMEDIA PROJECTOR
SMALL but POWERFUL
HIGH RESOLUTION DOCUMENT CAMERA
NEW TLP-X21
2400 ANSI True XGA
- Powerful **2,400 ANSI** Lumens. True XGA(1024 X 768).
- **Built-in Document Camera**
- **5-in-1** outstanding features
  - ☑ multimedia projector
  - ☑ digital camera
  - ☑ visual presenter
  - ☑ opaque projector
  - ☑ overhead projector
- **Built-in PCMCIA card slot** for PC-less presentation
- On screen **Picture-in-Picture**
- With **built-in Digital Keystone Corrector.**
- **Capture and save** document images, catalogs and 3D images.

Exclusively Distributed by:
PRESENTATION Solution CENTER
181 RJ Fernandez St., San Juan, Metro Manila
Tel. nos.: 727-6973, 723-6138, 723-1356 Telefax: 723-6890
SALES RENTALS SERVICE

TOYOTA
Passion
WE'VE ADDED BEAUTY TO THESE BEASTS.
RAV 4
J SERIES

A blend of beauty, brawn and brains. Desired by many, available to the select few who know that the best value their money can buy are these limited edition vehicles. Drive one home now before it runs out.

Hilux 4x4 SR5	RAV4	Hiace Super Grandia
Leather Seats Spray-On Bedliner Window Visors Also available in Hilux XS	State-of-the-art 2-Din Audio Head Unit Sporty "J" Grille Rear Spoiler Tire Cover Decal	Twin Monitor VCD System Thermo Electric Cooler/Heater Box* Window Visors* *Also available in the Hiace Grandia

Gov't OKs support plan for garment exporters

THE GARMENTS and Textile Export Board (GTEB) and representatives from the garment export industry, called the Garment Industry Transformation Team, have drawn up and started implementing a crucial industry assistance package determined to preserve the 400,000 workers currently being employed by 1,200 garment firms, and to ensure continued existence for the industry in the quota-free setup of 2005.

The Garment Export Industry Transformation Assistance Package was fleshed out after several industry-wide consultations with various sectors.

Trade and Industry Secretary Manuel A. Roxas II acknowledged the critical state of the Philippine garments and textile export industry in light of its dwindling hold on the US market, compounded by stiff competition from China and other aggressive apparel suppliers from Asia and South America.

"Free competition is what we will be facing in 2005. We have no choice but to find creative ways to maintain market access to our key markets, and remain as a competitive, viable, and vibrant industry in 2005," Roxas stressed.

The main components of the assistance package included a substantial lowering of administrative fees that will save the industry some P100 million; a P300-million development program geared for productivity enhancement, trade facilitation, and market/product development and promotion; a P1-billion financing scheme from Tidcorp to mainly benefit small and medium enterprises (SMEs); an enhanced quota incentives scheme offering a more flexible reward system that will allocate 30 percent of the free quota it gets annually from the United States, and the relaxation of quota rules within the GTEB, particularly with regard to penalties.

Expensive inputs, slow turnaround time, low productivity, narrow product range, and limited value-added services were identified as the garment industry's weakest links needing immediate counter-measures aided by government support.

The "China factor" was highlighted as one of the industry's biggest threats, with China's work efficiency being three times higher than the Philippines and its workers having a learning curve of 2.5 weeks with 85-percent productivity, against the Philippines' six to eight weeks with only 65-percent productivity. Vietnam's export performance of $2.5 billion in only two years of trading relations with the United States was cited as remarkable, considering it approximates the Philippines' $3-billion performance over a span of 50 years.

The country is also losing its foothold as top apparel supplier to the United States, slipping to its current position as No. 11 (based on quantity) and to No. 9 (based on value) from its rank as No. 7 in 1995, stepping aside for rivals Bangladesh, Indonesia and Honduras, which are cheaper, deliver faster, and provide a wider range of apparel and textile products. With the global oversupply for sewing capacity, the Philippine garment industry is being pushed to expand their supply markets and service buyers' requirements with more value-added benefits.

Several plans and programs outlined in the assistance package are already taking concrete form. In financing, Tidcorp formally launched its P1-billion Guarantee Fund and a special credit facility for garment exporters last March 20 in Malacañang. The scheme includes "short-term credit" as pre-shipment working capital, and "medium-term credit" for fixed assets for garment exporters who are credit-worthy but collateral deficient. Other financing windows to be made available to the garment industry are already being negotiated by the GTEB.

In productivity enhancement, the GTEB has already approved a scholarship fund for the training of garment workers in the entire country as a major step toward skills upgrading. The implementing guidelines for the scheme are being finalized.

Closer cooperation with the Bureau of Customs is also being secured with the GTEB set to meet with BOC Commissioner Antonio Bernardo regarding the implementation of the "Green Lane" for garment exporters to shorten turnaround time. The GTEB is preparing a list of certified export companies for endorsement to the BOC.

GTEB continues its market promotion efforts abroad with the participation in the ASAP Trade Show in Las Vegas last February, and in the World Apparel Market in Brussels this April. Sales blitz efforts to the United States and Canada this year are already being prepared to coincide with appropriate buying seasons. In addition, specific directions for "The New GTEB Beyond 2004" were also laid out last April 10 and 11 at a workshop participated in by the agency's officers and members of the garment industry transformation team. The business models established at the workshop are currently being evaluated.

With a generous quota incentive scheme co-written by the government and private sectors to motivate companies to invest in productivity and growth enhancement programs, which include training and skills upgrading, technology investments, ISO certification, and social responsiveness efforts to boost productivity, the GTEB has already begun to reap clear votes of confidence for the scheme, with several manufacturing companies already putting in their application for additional quota. The applications are currently being processed and considered.

Gov't draws up strategy to lure IT investments

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE GOVERNMENT has mapped out a comprehensive strategy to attract more investments in the high technology sector, targeting to create more than 5,000 new jobs this year from that sector alone.

Quoting its most recent socioeconomic report, the National Economic and Development Authority said in a press statement on Friday that the global recovery of the information, communication and technology (ICT) sector would bring more investment opportunities this year.

However, the government's central economic planning agency said the Philippines has yet to realize its full potential "because of the limited infrastructure essential for convergence and faster delivery of ICT services."

It also admitted that graft and corruption in the bureaucracy remained a major threat to development.

As such, the Neda said among the government's ICT agenda for 2002 would be to flesh out President Macapagal-Arroyo's promise during her last State of the Nation Address to create a Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT).

"The DICT will assume the communications-related powers and functions, as well as personnel of the Department of Transportation and Communication and other government agencies performing ICT-related functions. It will also oversee the implementation of all ICT-related government initiatives consistent with the goals and objectives of national ICT plans," the Neda statement said.

The Neda also said the government would expand the implementing rules and regulations of the Build-Operate-Transfer law to address specific requirements of ICT projects.

Other measures identified were to:

- accelerate the granting of permits and licenses for private sector telecommunications service providers of broadband services and other key telecommunications services in key areas;
- promote the demand for ICT services through faster implementation of the e-development program for small and medium enterprises and by increasing the use of the Internet and electronic mail for the government;
- set monitoring, implementation standards and benchmarking processes to ensure compliance to the e-Commerce law.

When you're thinking of venturing into entrepreneurship, learn the ropes at AIM.

Venture Into Entrepreneurship

Your preparation to being your own boss.

VIE is an innovative and unique six-month program specially designed for all those who want to be entrepreneurs. The course participant will be exposed to a virtual smorgasbord of business opportunities such as franchises, new products, new services, new ventures, subcontracting and a host of other possibilities from which participants can make their choice. VIE is a program of self assessment, evaluation of opportunities, and determination of "best fit" between the entrepreneurs and the business venture of their choice.

At the end of the course, the participants would have completed the enterprise plan of their proposed business venture, complete with market evaluation and entry strategies, financial projections and financing arrangements, and business registration requirements for implementing the enterprise.

PROGRAM DESIGN

VIE is structured into a two-loop program.

FIRST LOOP

Learning the tools for understanding yourself, the entrepreneur, the environment, and identifying opportunities for setting up new ventures.

SECOND LOOP

Putting together the different components of the enterprise plan and formulating strategies for successful implementation of the plan.

Classes start May 6, 2002

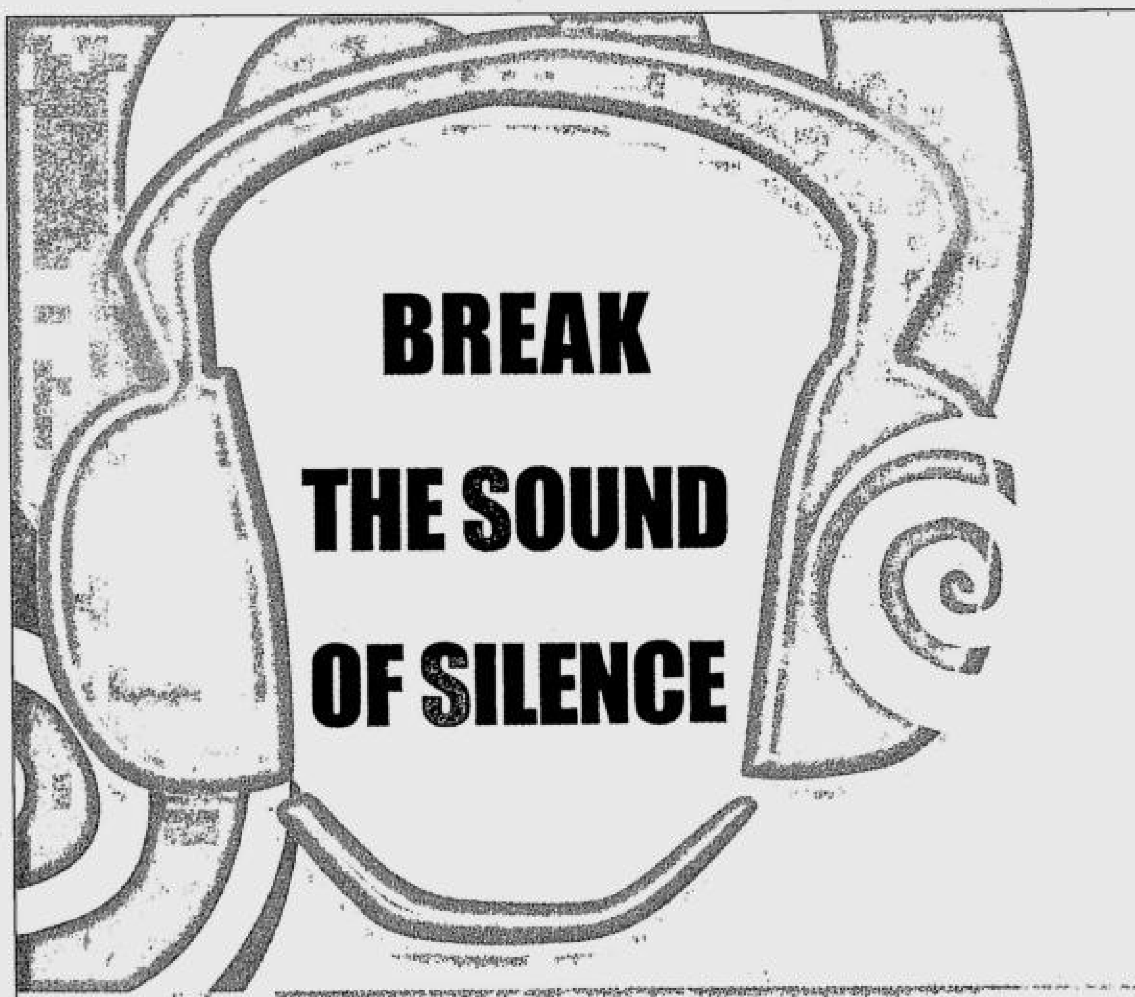
ACE ASIAN CENTER FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP
An AIM Center of Excellence

For more information, call:
Luvy A. Villanueva
Program Manager
892-4011 to 25 loc.187
E-mail : lvillanueva@dataserve.aim.edu.ph
Liza Ayalde
892-4011 to 25 loc.252
E-mail: mayalde@dataserve.aim.edu.ph

Or visit us at:

123 Paseo de Roxas,
1260 Makati City, Philippines
Trunkline: (632) 892-4011 to 25
Fax: (632) 813-3302
http://www.aim.edu.ph

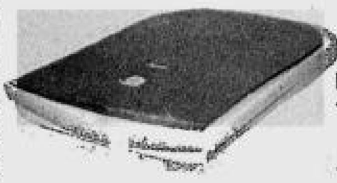
ASIAN INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT



Canon Bubble Jet Printers and Flatbed Scanners take your listening pleasure to a higher level. Bring home a set of 400w High-powered & Slim Multimedia Speakers w/ Subwoofer for FREE with every purchase of Canon S300 or Canon S400/SP Bubble Jet Printers. Or a set of 200w Stylish & Slim Multimedia Speakers for every purchase of Canon N640Pex or Canon D646U Flatbed Scanners.

Check it out. It's for you.

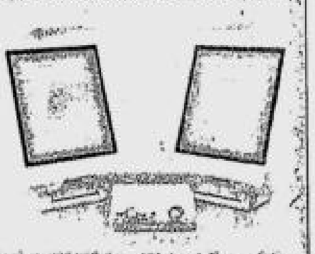
Promo runs nationwide from February 11 to April 11, 2002 only.

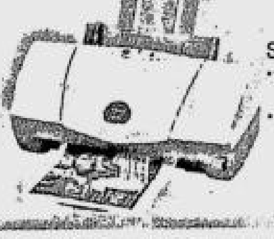


D646U
- A compact beauty with the Advanced Z-Lid Technology
- Great resolution from a very affordable scanner

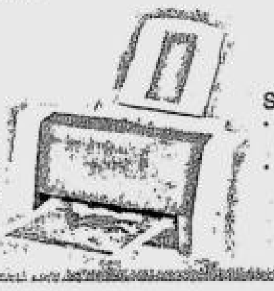
N640Pex
- More style in less space
- Recognizes over 4 Trillion colours

FREE
200w Stylish & Slim Multimedia Speakers



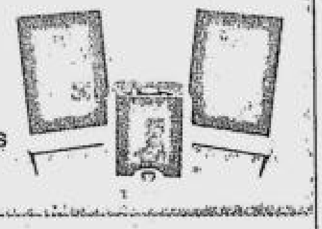


S400/SP
- The perfect all-in-one printer
- With individual Ink Tanks -- the printer that saves you money by saving you ink



S300
- Quality that leaves you breathless
- Your fast and affordable quality printer--11 ppm (mono) / 7.5 ppm (colour)

FREE
400w High-powered & Slim Multimedia Speakers w/ Subwoofer



PROMO MECHANICS:
1. For every purchase of any participating model of Canon Flatbed Scanners and Bubble Jet Printers (N640Pex / D646U / S300 / S400/SP), the customer is entitled to a multimedia speaker upgrade.
2. For S300 & S400/SP Bubble Jet Printers, the customer will get FREE 400w High-powered & Slim Multimedia Speakers w/ Subwoofer while for N640Pex & D646U they will get FREE 200w Stylish & Slim Multimedia Speakers.
3. Kindly present the claim stub, sales invoice, warranty card and valid I.D. upon claiming.
4. Customers can claim their multimedia speakers until June 11, 2002. See posters for details.

Canon DIGITAL SOLUTIONS

CANON MARKETING (PHILIPPINES), INC. 2153 Marvin Plaza Bldg. Chino Roces Ave., Makati City Tel. No. 812-6047 Fax: 812-0087 E-mail: info@canon.com.ph
Preferred Canon Dealers: PC Madness 7250329 (Quezon City) • Diamond & Dreamchum 7232563 (Quezon City) • Villman Computer Systems, Inc. 6322222 (Quezon City) PC Express 7255041 (Quezon City) Prodata 922 6901 (Quezon City) • PC Chain Superstores 4144328 (Quezon City) • Asianic 635-9540 (Manila) • Columbia Computer 5645555 (Manila) • A3000 7260168 (Manila) • Star Apple 8111360 (Makati) • Electroworld 7472054 (Mandaluyong) • Datacare 7254541 (SM North) • NT Computermart 9272507 (SM North) • Acenet 7264276 (Venamall) • Laser Marketing (074) 4425275 (Baguio) • Com-plex Computer Center (074) 4426357 (Baguio) • Thinking Tools Inc. (032) 2542227 (Cebu) • Concept Computer (033) 3378476 (Iloilo) • CBX (032) 2546564 (Cebu)
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0360, Series of 2002.

SEC drops cases against 64 BW brokers

By Elena R. Torrijos

THE SECURITIES and Exchange Commission has agreed to drop administrative cases against 64 brokers and two individuals for their alleged involvement in the BW Resources stock fraud scandal over two years ago under compromise settlements totaling P11 million, SEC officials announced in a recent press briefing.

In an attempt to shield brokers from publicity, SEC officials refused to give a list of those who settled directly although the names, without the amount of the settlements and fines, would supposedly be posted in the SEC's website some time in the future.

According to section 55.3 of the Securities Regulation Code, the Commission may only agree to a settlement offer based on its findings that such settlement is in the public interest. The settlement shall have no legal effect until publicly disclosed and may be made without determination of guilt.

SEC officials said many brokers paid as low as P5,000 while the biggest settlement was for P2.7 million.

SEC officials said more brokers would be fined but they expected the cases to be settled as well. The SEC had slapped fines on a total of 70 brokers and individuals but only the 66 entered into compromise settlements because three brokerage houses had closed down and the nominee of one was out of the country.

The SEC imposed the fines for violations of the Revised Securities Act and the subsequent Securities Regulation Code consisting of manipulation of trading of BW Resources shares through wash sales, matched orders, marking the close and other manipulative devices.

Documents earlier obtained showed that A.T. de Castro Securities agreed to pay P1 million, of which half would be in installment.

Businessman Ramon Lee also agreed to a compromise penalty amounting to P112,500.

An official from the SEC also said that Wealth Securities of broker Wilson Sy agreed to one of the highest settlements although not as high as that of A.T. de Castro's.

FPDsavills
INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY CONSULTANTS

PREMISES IN GRADE 'A' OFFICE DEVELOPMENT FOR SALE AT BELOW MARKET RATES

TAIPAN PLACE
Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center

256.01 sq. meters and 2 parking slots

Terms & Conditions:
Flexible payment terms available
Fully fitted and furnished: reception area, pantry, executive toilet & bath, board room, executive room.

For more information, please contact

Argy Noblejas
Mobile: (0918) 914 3309
Email: moblejas@fpdsavills.com.ph

Joyce Bauzon
Mobile: (0918) 918 1443
Email: jbauzon@fpdsavills.com.ph

www.fpdsavills.com
(02) 885 0580

• SALES • RENTALS • REPAIR • DESIGN

BOXLIGHT
XP–8t
projector

For the presenter on the move, this projector's light, bright and **PRICED RIGHT**. The ultra-compact XP-8t puts out a brilliant **1100 ANSI LUMENS**, yet weighs only 6 pounds. Its true XGA resolution means you won't have to change your laptop's resolution, and its **MANUAL ZOOM** and focus let you set up quickly and easily. There's even a power management selection that can automatically turn your lamp off after 5 minutes of non-use. **WITH HDTV COMPATIBILITY**, component video input and an FCC Class B residential rating, you can take this projector home to prepare for business trips and also enjoy **BIG SCREEN VIDEO**. Call the digital projector specialists at BOXLIGHT.

BRIGHT XGA IMAGES

LIGHTWEIGHT TRAVELER

AFFORDABLY PRICED

BOXLIGHT®
Presenting a Better Way
19332 Powder Hill Place
Poulsbo, WA, USA 98370

CALL 8111360 TEXT (0917)8901688 FAX 8436847

www.boxlight.com

CONGRATULATIONS,
GKP Scholars Batch 2002!

Shaping minds.
Fulfilling dreams.

GO KIM PAH
1899-1983

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

Ateneo de Davao University
Charlene D. Coroza
BS Accountancy

Ateneo de Manila University
Melissa B. Ang
BS Management Engineering

De La Salle University
Trixie Mary S. Tacardon
AB Psychology/BS Commerce (Marketing Management)
Honorable Mention
Term 1, October 2001

Rebecca Marie P. Santiago
AB Organizational Communications
Term 1, October 2001

Louie S. Cunanan
BS Applied Economics/BS Commerce (Management of Financial Institutions)

Holy Cross of Davao College
Jóseniño B. Santos
BS Accountancy

Saint Louis University
Rachel I. Diciano
BS Accountancy

San Beda College
Kit B. Montecillo
BS Accountancy

Silliman University
Erlino G. Ruelo
BS Business Administration

UP Diliman
Sharry Kay L. Ardaniel
BS Statistics

UP Los Baños
Sheryl Ma. M. Navarez
BS Economics
Magna Cum Laude

University of San Agustin
Carlo Angelo R. Alcayaga
BS Accountancy
Magna Cum Laude

University of St. La Salle
Ena Luigi V. Magay
BS Accountancy
Cum Laude

University of Santo Tomas
Helen Grace R. Cuison
BS Accountancy
Cum Laude

University of Asia & the Pacific
Christian R. Vallez
Master of Science in Information Technology

Dorothy Jeanne L. Castañeda
BS Industrial Economics

Xavier University
Christy Ann P. Alamban
BS Accountancy

VOCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Xavier University-Center for Industrial Technology
Alvin S. Zulita
Diploma in Electrical Technology

Cebu State College of Science and Technology
Niña F. Kasayan
Certificate in Industrial Technology, major in Garments Technology

Tuloy sa Don Bosco Streetchildren Project
Enrico C. Castillo
Automotive

Equitable Bank Foundation Inc.
4/F Equitable PCI Bank Tower I, Makati Avenue corner H.V. dela Costa Street, Makati City • Tel. No.: 840-7000 local 2520 • Telefax: 812-6393
A foundation of
Equitable PCI BANK
Service Is Our Element.

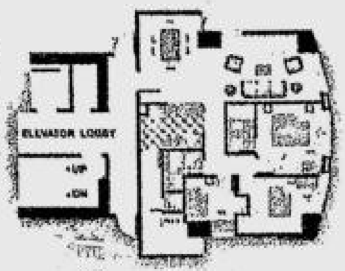
AVOID COSTLY & PAINFUL MISTAKES.
HERE COMES A DIRECT SOLUTION !

Why buy from the middleman at **P63,000/sqm.** and above?

When you can buy services to build direct at a cost of **P37,000/sqm.** and at half the delivery time.

LOCATION : **Fort Bonifacio** Global City neighbor to **Forbes Park** & **Manila Golf.**

For only P36,200/sqm. to P39,980/sqm. own a **3-Bedroom** Corner Unit for **3.95M.**
* 60% open space and garden with a swimming pool.



3-BEDROOM
TYPE B UNIT
109.14 sqm.

ELEVATOR LOBBY
UP
DN

3-BEDROOM
CORNER UNIT
163.70 sqm.

For more information or to be invited to a presentation.
Please call telephone numbers:
631-6571 to 77
637-0234 to 36

PENHURST
PARKPLACE

Project Proponents:

GW
DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANT

FORT BONIFACIO
LAND PROVIDER

iBank
International Exchange Bank
TRUSTEE BANK

For announcement purposes only.

shareXCHANGE
YOUR TRUSTWORTHY CLUB SHARES CONSULTANT
OVER 25 YEARS IN COMBINED CLUB SHARES EXPERIENCE! SEC LIC. # 99

Partial List 04/26/2002

CLUBS	SELLING AT
ALABANG "A"	1,700,000
CALATAGAN GC "A"	90,000
CANLUBANG GC	625,000
CAPITOL HILLS	120,000
MANILA GOLF (INDIV)	Call now
MLA SWOODS "A"/"B"	.67M/.725M
ORCHARD "A"/"B"	.25M/.35M
PUNTA FUEGO	Call now
QUEZON CITY SPORTS "A"	240,000
RIVIERA GCC "A"	Call now
SHERWOOD HILLS "C"	200,000
STA. ELENA GC "A"	1,800,000
TAGAYTAY H'LANDS	900,000
THE COUNTRY CLUB	Call now
WACK WACK GOLF	Call now

Share Swapping: Please Call

CLUBS	BUYING AT
ALABANG "A"	1,600,000
ALABANG "B"	Call now
BAGUIO CC	Call now
CAMP JOHN HAY	250,000
CC AT TAGAYTAY	400,000
EAGLE RIDGE "A"	300,000
MAKATI SPORTS "A"	250,000
MANILA POLO	Call now
MLA SWOODS "B"	650,000
STA. ELENA GC "A"	Call now
SUBIC BAY YACHT (CORP)	Call now
TAGAYTAY H'LANDS	850,000
TAGAYTAY MIDLANDS	750,000
VALLEY GOLF	270,000

AVAILABLE LESSORS FOR PLAYING RIGHTS

ALABANG CC "A"	25,000
CC AT TAGAYTAY	20,000
MANILA GOLF	400,000
STA. ELENA "A"	65,000
TAGAYTAY HIGHLANDS	35,000
TAGAYTAY MIDLANDS	30,000
THE COUNTRY CLUB	Call now
WACK WACK	90,000

TERE TABUENA, LYRA, KARRENE, LEIZA, FRANCO DEL ROSARIO
809-8233 / 809-8263 / 850-5870-71 / 0918-9043308
E-mail: clubshare@eveserve.com / Fax: 809-8074

Ang Tan Golf Club & Shares, Inc.
SEC Licensed Golf & Club Shares Brokers No. 10573
268 Kalentong Street, Mandaluyong City

SELLING:

Alabang A	1,650,000
Baguio Country Club	745,000
Camp John Hay Golf	280,000
Canlubang Golf	600,000
Canyon Woods	180,000
Capitol Hills	125,000
Eagle Ridge A/B	350/400,000
Forest Hills "A"/B/C	230/250/230
Manila Golf (Indiv.)/Corp.	12M/15M
Manila Polo	2,750,000
Manila Southwoods "A"/B	630,000/700,000
Mt. Malarayat "A"/B/C	350/400/500
Mimosa/C-3	120,000-/250,000
Orchard "A"/B/C	210/250/320
Philippine Columbian	90,000
Puerto Azul	100,000
Riviera "A"/B/C	180/250/400
Rockwell Club	420,000
Royale Tagaytay	79,000
Sta. Elena A	1,750,000
Sherwood A/B	180/200
Subic Yacht (Indiv.)/Corp.	170,000/330,000
Tagaytay Highland Club	470,000
Tagaytay Highland Golf	900,000
Tagaytay Midlands	Please call
Valle Verde CC	170,000
Wack Wack	6,790,000

Other shares & lease playing rights available

BUYING:

Alabang A	1,650,000
Baguio Country Club	730,000
Calatagan A	90,000
Camp John Hay Golf	280,000
Canlubang Golf	550,000
Celebrity	200,000
Eagle Ridge A/B	340,000/350,000
Fontana C/D	65,000
Forest Hills A	220,000
Luisita	330,000
Manila Golf (Indv.)	11M
Manila Polo	2,750,000
Manila Southwoods "A"/B	620,000/680,000
Makati Sports "A"/B	370/380
Metropolitan "A"	100,000
Mimosa C-3	230,000
Orchard A/C	200,000/320,000
Philippine Columbian	70,000
Quezon City Sports	210,000
Riviera A/C	185/350
Rockwell Club	400,000
Sta. Elena B	2,200,000
Tagaytay Highland Club	400,000
Tagaytay Highland Golf	850,000
Tagaytay Midlands	780,000
Valley Golf	250,000
Wack Wack	6,700,000

Connie Ang
Trading Manager/Real Estate Broker
Corinthian House P28M, Valleygolf House 5,000 m2 P15M
Rentals: Condo, Warehouse Bulacan/Cavite
Lot: Batangas, Laguna, Alabang-Zapote, Greenhills, Greenmeadows, Acrop. Valle Verde
Tels: (24 Hours)
253-0008 • 256-3188 • 256-6001•0919-3577282

FRANCISCO V. DEL ROSARIO HOLDINGS, INC.
OUR 20th Year
YOUR TRUSTED SPECIALIST BROKER SINCE 1982 • SEC License #2115
BUY/SELL COUNTRY CLUB SHARES
AS OF APRIL 26, 2002

		ASKED PRICE	BID PRICE
1	BUENAVISTA NATURE PARK & COUNTRY CLUB	Please call	-
2.	CALATAGAN GOLF CLUB	-	100,000 a/w
3	CAMP JOHN HAY	280,000.00	-
4.	CAPITOL HILLS GOLF CLUB	-	125,000.00
5	COUNTRY CLUB AT TAGAYTAY	-	400,000.00
6.	CLUB FILIPINO	220,000.00	-
7.	EASTRIDGE GOLF CLUB	200,000.00	
8	FONTANA "D"	70,000.00	-
9.	MAKATI SPORTS CLUB "B"	-	250,000.00
10	MANILA GOLF CLUB (Ind.)		11,000,000.00
11	MANILA POLO CLUB	-	2,700,000.00
12	MANILA SOUTHWOODS "A"	630,000.00	-
13	MANILA SOUTHWOODS "B"	700,000.00	
14	MIMOSA	130,000.00	-
15	MT. MALARAYAT "B"	40,000.00	-
16	ORCHARD GOLF CLUB "B"	275,000.00	
17	ORCHARD GOLF CLUB "C"	500,000.00	
18	PUERTO AZUL BEACH CLUB "A"	100,000.00	-
19	PHILIPPINE COLUMBIAN ASSOCIATION	80,000.00	-
20	ROYALE TAGAYTAY	-	70,000.00
21	ROCKWELL	500,000.00	-
22	RIVIERA GOLF CLUB "A"	200,000.00	
23	RIVIERA GOLF CLUB "B"	250,000.00	
24	RIVIERA GOLF CLUB "C"	350,000.00	
25	STA. ELENA GOLF CLUB "A"	1,800,000.00	-
26.	STA. ELENA GOLF CLUB "B"	-	2,000,000.00
27	SHERWOOD HILLS "B"	230,000.00	-
28	SPA & LODGE	900,000.00	-
29	VALLEY GOLF CLUB	-	220,000.00
30	VERDEMAR GOLF CLUB, INC. (CEBU)	Please call	-
31.	WACK WACK GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	7,000,000.00 all-in	-
32	THE COUNTRY CLUB	3,500,000.00	-
33	OTHERS	Please call	-

PLAYING RIGHTS ALSO AVAILABLE

ALABANG COUNTRY CLUB	P 30,000.00	STA. ELENA GOLF CLUB	50,000.00
CALATAGAN GOLF CLUB	free/rental	TAGAYTAY GOLF CLUB	40,000.00
COUNTRY CLUB AT TAGAYTAY	20,000.00	VALLEY GOLF CLUB	15,000.00
MAKATI SPORTS CLUB	20,000.00	WACK WACK GOLF CLUB	60,000.00
MANILA SOUTHWOODS	30,000.00	ORCHARD GOLF CLUB	30,000.00
		OTHERS	Please call

AMELIA B. MAGAT
Asst. Treas. / Comptroller
or call
ROMEO M. RIBAÑO / SHIONEL PIGA / REYNALDO CUEVAS
Ground Floor, Tuscan Building, 114 Herrera Street
Legaspi Village, Makati City
Tels: 818-6991 • 818-6936 • 818-6948 Fax: 818-5453
E-mail address: fvrh@info.com.ph

GG & A Club Shares
SEC License Broker #007575 * As of April 29, 2002

CLUB	BUYER	SELLER
Alabang Country Club "A" (Filipino)	1,600,000	1,750,000
Alabang Country Club "B" (Foreigner)	Please Call	2,000,000
Baguio Country Club	700,000	750,000
Calatagan Golf Club "A"	80,000	100,000
Calatagan Golf Club "B"	-	110,000
Camp John Hay	250,000	280,000
Canlubang	-	Please Call
Canyonwoods	Please Call	200,000
Capitol Hills	-	130,000
Celebrity Sports Club	180,000	195,000
Eagle Ridge "A"/"B"/"C"	Please Call	Please Call
Eastridge "A"	Please Call	Please Call
Evercrest "A"	-	100,000
Forest Hills "A"	200,000	230,000
Forest Hills "B"	-	280,000
Forest Hills "C"	-	280,000
Makati Sports Club "A"	Please Call	280,000
Makati Sports Club "B"	260,000	375,000
Manila Golf (Corporate)	-	15,000,000
Manila Golf (Individual)	11,000,000	13,000,000
Manila Polo	2,700,000	Please Call
Manila Southwoods "A"	600,000	640,000
Manila Southwoods "B"	680,000	750,000
Metropolitan Club "A"	100,000	120,000
Montemar (Individual)	-	30,000
Montemar (Corp)	50,000	
Mt. Malarayat	-	350,000
Orchard Golf Club "A"	200,000	250,000
Orchard Golf Club "B"	-	300,000
Orchard Golf Club "C"	-	500,000
Philippine Columbian	-	-
Pueblo de Oro "A"/"B"/"C"	-	Please Call
Puerto Azul	-	125,000
Quezon City Sports Club	200,000	220,000
Riviera Golf & Country Club "A"	-	Please Call
Rockwell	Please Call	550,000
Sherwood Hills "A"	90,000	130,000
Sta. Elena "A"	1,700,000	1,800,000
Sta. Elena "B"	2,100,000	-
Subic Bay Yacht (Corporate)	-	300,000
Subic Bay Yacht (Individual)	-	180,000
Tagaytay Country Club	390,000	420,000
Tagaytay Highlands	840,000	900,000
Tagaytay Midlands	750,000	800,000
The Country Club	Please Call	Please Call
Valle Verde (Individual)	150,000	180,000
Valley Golf	240,000	-
Wack-Wack Golf Club	6,900,000	7,000,000

PLAYING RIGHTS (Available Lessors)

Alabang "A"	25,000	Mimosa Golf	25,000
Calatagan "A"	10,000	Orchard "A"	30,000
Canlubang	60,000	Riviera "A"	15,000
Eagleridge	15,000	Sta. Elena	60,000
Eastridge "A"	20,000	Tagaytay CC	20,000
Forest Hills	30,000	Tagaytay Golf	45,000
Manila Southwoods	20,000	Tagaytay Mid.	35,000
Makati Sports "A"	25,000	Valley Golf	20,000
Manila Golf	300,000	Wack-Wack	90,000

For more information, please call:
MAKATI 840-1781 • Fax 894-3021 / 750-7694
ALABANG 850-8223 • Fax 772-1817
or e-mail at: ggashare@mozcom.com
Penthouse, Pacific Star Bldg., Sen Gil Puyat cor. Makati Ave., Makati City
GET OUR LATEST CLUB SHARE QUOTES BY TEXTING
GGA HELP
to 2333 for GLOBE Handyphone subscribers
or 288 for Smart Gold & Buddy subscribers
Visit us at www.ggaclubshares.com

An introduction to technical analysis

MR. BEARBULL

Ron Nathan

BEFORE I start on this fascinating subject, a number of readers have asked me how I got the pseudonym of Mr. Bearbull. It has nothing to do with the market; my wife said I was unbearabull. Over the weekend, I had a terrible pain in my kidney so my spouse rubbed it with some oil which is guaranteed to cure every ailment known to mankind, cancer, heart disease, diabetes, hypertension, high cholesterol, even in growing toenails. At the bottom, the instructions read "Also good for bicycles and sewing machines." I would like to take this opportunity to deny that my likeness will appear on the new P3 note.

Everybody these days has a high sounding job. For example, a waitress is a food attendant, a garbage collector is a hygiene inspector, a prostitute is a commercial sex worker, and a chartist is a technical analyst. I suppose a jeweller who sells Japanese watches is a Seiko analyst. Enough of this frivolity, let us return to the serious stuff.

My conceptualization of technical analysis is that it must relate to the real world, that is to say, that people react to it. The first criterion is trend, never trade against it. Everybody knows which way the market is going—down the drain at the moment. The Phisix has been declining since February when it almost reached 1,500. Since then it has been falling, consolidating, falling, consolidating, but always with a downward bias, so don't bias any stocks.

The second important criteria are support and resistance and I intend to explain them in some detail. Theoretically, they are opposite sides of a coin but this is not so, as I shall prove later. First, we will tackle resistance.

Let us assume that you buy a stock at 80 centavos and to your delight, it goes up to P1. You think about taking a profit but while you are hesitating, it starts to fall. Of course, your stop-loss should take you out near the top but you don't use them and the stock falls to 94 centavos. Irritated, you, and hundreds of other speculators, tell their brokers that if it goes up to P1 again, sell. The result is a mass of sellers at P1. Some will post their orders but many will conceal them for fear of deterring buyers. So, there is a large number of would-be sellers at P1, and in order to push the stock higher, there has to be an abundance of buyers to overcome the resistance.

However, let us suppose that when the stock reaches P1, you changed your mind. This is not unreasonable because the low of 94 centavos was well above the previous low of 80 centavos, so the stock is in an uptrend. Unfortunately, there are not enough buyers to accommodate all the other sellers and the stock falls back to 90 centavos. This is bad news because the stock has made a double top at P1, and the new low of 90 centavos is below the previous low of 94 centavos. If you use KAGI, which I will explain in another article, you will automatically be out at 93 centavos, but as few people have ever heard of KAGI, you find yourself trapped a second time. Worse still, the stock is now in a downtrend, so in desperation you call your broker and tell him that if the stock ever reaches P1 again, just sell it. Resistance is now stronger and the more times, the stock will reach P1 and fall back, the greater will become the resistance.

However, once the resistance level has been broken and the stock closes at P1.02 or more, the stock will surely go higher, because aggressive buyers who now dominate the scene have bought out all the potential sellers.

If any of you remember my article on "How I made a killing in the gold market," you will recall that gold made a quintuple top at $420 over a long period of time, but once it broke out, the price rose to $850 in 17 days. KAGI would have automatically put you into gold at $425.

Support is the opposite. You see a stock fall to 50 centavos and think of buying it but you hesitate and it goes up to 60 centavos. Irritated again, you tell your broker to buy the stock, the next time it falls to 50 centavos. Unfortunately, a lot of other investors feel the same way and also leave similar orders. So, there are a lot of eager buyers wanting to get in at 50 centavos. As a result, this becomes a support level. If the stock drops back to 50 centavos, you will probably buy it, but the market might be terrible, so you cancel your order and it goes up again. Frustrated beyond belief, you instruct your broker to post a buying order, good till cancelled. The support level is getting stronger.

But once again, if the support level is broken by a wave of determined sellers, it is almost certain to go lower as sellers have the upper hand. To illustrate, when BPC fell from P5 to P1, I thought that P1 would act as a support level because people like to put in orders at round numbers. So I posted at P1 and got hit, but since I did not want to hold the stock, I sold intraday at P1.06. The next day, the same thing happened, in at P1, out at P1.06. But the third time I got hit at P1, the stock at 11:30 was 99 centavos to P1, with one million buyers and 3 million sellers. It seemed likely that the stock would close below par, so I sold at 99 centavos. This selling order caused the shares to close at 98 centavos and the support level was violated. Within a few weeks, the stock fell to 43 centavos. Lucky escape? Not at all.

The difference between support and resistance is that it is impossible for the market to be so good, that short-term traders will not take a profit at some point. But it is quite possible that with bombs exploding, rumors of a coup d'etat, trouble in the Middle East, and Wall Street crashing, buyers just cancel all their orders and quit the market temporarily. So, support is less reliable.

Another fact that technical analysis books do not tell you is that support and resistance fade over time, just as gravity decreases with the square of the distance between two bodies. If your failure to act occurred a short time ago, it is still fresh in your memory. If it happened years ago, you will probably have already sold the stock at a huge loss, given it to your children, or erased it from your memory banks. Nobody likes to remember his or her disasters.

If readers would like me to write about subjects of general interest, email me, *mrbearbull@hotmail.com* and if there is enough demand, I will try to comply. Next week, I will write about how to use the support and resistance levels, which appear in the newsletter twice a week, and are updated daily.

Poor earnings, political jitters seen hounding stocks

MARKET PLAY

By Doris C. Dumlao

JITTERS over a string of bad news like the bombings in Mindanao, talks about destabilization plots against the Macapagal administration and poor corporate earnings for the first quarter are still expected to hound the market this week.

These were the same negative factors which soured the appetite for bargain-hunting in the Philippine Stock Exchange last week, with the main PSE composite index tumbling 5.5 percent from a week ago to close at 1,323.96.

Summit Securities president Harry Liu said the market was undergoing a "healthy medium-term pullback" and should see some support at 1,250 and 1,300.

Liu said domestic concerns were still weighing down on market sentiment, adding to pressures from the ongoing technical correction. As such, he said the market would likely trade sideways this week.

"After hitting 1,280 to 1,300, the market should either start firming up or consolidating. After that it will be an upswing by the third quarter," Liu said.

AB Capital Securities analyst Jose Vistan said stock traders were wary about the expected Labor Day demonstrations on May 1 against oil and electricity price hikes as well as the perceived insensitivity of the government to the plight of the poor.

Vistan said the first batch of earnings results released by the blue chips last week did not help either, the "most damaging" of which was the P72.8-million net loss incurred by power distributor Manila Electric Co.

Broadcasting giant ABS-CBN Broadcasting posted a marginal profit and admitted that it incurred losses during the first two months of the year. Food and beverage giant San Miguel Corp. likewise posted weak earnings results.

"With the market at near-term oversold levels, some bargain hunters will take the market's drop as an opportunity to accumulate quality issues. Notwithstanding, the market might not be able to rebound swiftly as negative factors presently outweigh the positive ones," Vistan said.

On the macroeconomic front, one positive development that was overshadowed by the negative events was the rebound by the manufacturing sector after an 11-month slump.

Ed Bancod, head of research at BNP Paribas Peregrine Securities Inc., said he believed there was a lag between improved production output and corporate earnings, judging by the "disastrous" performance indications of publicly listed companies in the first quarter. However, he said better earnings arising from the turnaround in manufacturing output was imminent.

"This is consistent with what we're seeing in any other sector like retail sales. We're starting to see more life after the flat growth. But it is too early to say if an uptrend (in manufacturing) has been established," Bancod said.

For this week, BPI Securities said investors should trade in the market with caution, noting that technical indicators remained bearish.

"We suggest a wait-and-see stance until most of the companies have reported their earnings performance. Investors are likely to stay sidelined until they see some signs of an improvement in corporate performance. We see the current drop in the market as an opportunity to bargain hunt," BPI Securities said.

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of Friday, April 26, 2002)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Bank of the Phil. Islands	66.5	68	66.5	68	182,200
Citystate Savings Bank	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	2,000
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	37	37	35	35.5	911,300
First E-Bank Corp.	1.74	1.74	1.74	1.74	90,000
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	39	39.5	38	38.5	192,300
Philippine National Bank	53	54	53	54	2,400
Phil. Savings Bank	29	29	29	29	5,500
Rizal Comm. Banking Corp.	12.25	12.25	12.25	12.25	20,000
Union Bank of the Phil.	22	22	21.5	21.5	56,800
FINANCIAL SERVICE					
Bankard Inc.	1.42	1.42	1.4	1.4	195,000
Sun Life Financial Serv.	1080	1080	1070	1075	31,560
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	31	31	30.5	30.5	17,200
Digital Telecom Phils Inc.	0.56	0.56	0.53	0.55	2,320,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	600	640	600	640	15,260
Island Info and Tech Inc.	0.043	0.043	0.041	0.041	4,800,000
Piltel	0.43	0.46	0.43	0.44	2,920,000
Phil. Telegraph & Tel. Co.	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	450,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	467.5	467.5	465	467.5	38,010
Philweb.Com Inc.	0.018	0.018	0.017	0.018	12,000,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	25.5	25.5	24	24.5	73,000
Manila Electric Co. B	43	43	39.5	40	2,086,700
Petron Corp.	1.56	1.58	1.56	1.56	1,394,000
Salcon Power Corp.	1.74	1.74	1.74	1.74	100,000
Trans-Asia Oil and Energy	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.89	100,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Asian Terminals Inc.	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	70,000
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	2.75	2.75	2.7	2.7	844,000
William, Gothong & Aboitiz	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	60,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Engineering Equip. Inc.	0.27	0.27	0.27	0.27	60,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	159,000
Jollibee Foods Corp.	13.25	13.5	13.25	13.5	427,800
La Tondena Distillers Inc.	29.5	29.5	29	29	1,927,600
RFM Corp.	1.26	1.26	1.26	1.26	13,000
San Miguel Corp. A	46.5	47.5	45.5	47.5	300,800
San Miguel Corp. B	55	55	54.5	55	358,300
Vitarich Corp.	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	40,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Abacus Con Res & Hdg A	0.42	0.45	0.42	0.45	60,000
Ayala Corp.	5.8	5.8	5.6	5.7	4,039,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	2.06	2.06	2.06	2.06	91,000
APC Group Inc.	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.11	50,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.0085	0.0085	0.0085	0.0085	20,000,000
ATN Holdings Inc.	2.65	2.7	2.65	2.7	11,000
Balabac Resources & Hldgs	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.115	20,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	0.59	0.59	0.58	0.59	3,570,000
Basic Consolidated Inc.	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	920,000
Crown Equities Inc.	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.29	100,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.24	130,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	27	27	26.5	26.5	253,400
Global Equities Inc.	0.11	0.11	0.105	0.105	530,000
House Of Investments Inc.	0.42	0.42	0.42	0.42	80,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	1.74	1.76	1.74	1.74	76,000
Macroasia Corp.	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	140,000
Megaworld Corp.	0.83	0.83	0.82	0.83	7,340,000
Mabuhay Holdings Corp.	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	500,000
Multitech Inv. Corp.	0.8	0.8	0.68	0.68	160,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.27	0.27	0.27	0.27	1,250,000
Music Corp.	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	10,000
Prime Orion Phils. Inc.	0.145	0.145	0.145	0.145	200,000
Solid Group Inc.	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.34	170,000
Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	300,000
Waterfront Phils. Inc.	0.34	0.34	0.3	0.3	1,700,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
SPI Technologies Inc.	11	11	11	11	31,200
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICE					
Belle Corp.	0.54	0.54	0.53	0.53	4,080,000
Manila Jockey Club	13	13	13	13	3,300
Mondragon Intl Phils Inc.	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	150,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. (Pdr)	31	31	30.5	30.5	1,367,800
DMCI Holdings Inc.- Pref.	775	775	775	775	1,470
Globe Telecom Hldg (Pdr)	670	695	665	695	4,610
Jollibee Warrants	13	13	13	13	3,400
Omico Corp. Warrant	0.0002	0.0004	0.0002	0.0004	200,000,000
PLDT (10% Pref) Series P	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	300
PLDT (10% Pref.) Series U	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	300
PLDT (10% Pref) Series V	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	1,900
PLDT (10% Pref) Series W	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	1,200
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Y	10.75	10.75	10.5	10.5	7,200
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Z	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	2,800
PLDT 10% Pref Series Aa	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	2,400
PLDT 10% Pref Series Bb	10	10	10	10	6,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	6.8	6.8	6.7	6.8	7,995,000
Cebu Holdings Inc.	0.41	0.41	0.41	0.41	30,000
C & P Homes Inc.	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	70,000
Cebu Prop. Vent. A	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	10,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.37	20,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.27	0.27	0.26	0.26	5,590,000
Edsa Prop. Holdings Inc.	1	1	1	1	30,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.6	12,209,000
Highlands Prime Leisure	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	10,000
Phil Realty And Holdings	0.06	0.06	0.055	0.055	900,000
SM Development Corp.	1.12	1.12	1.04	1.04	170,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	6.3	6.3	6.2	6.2	7,395,000
MINING					
Atlas Cons. Min & Dev't	1.32	1.32	1.32	1.32	30,000
Dizon Copper Silver Mines	1	1	1	1	20,000
Itogon-Suyoc Mines Inc.	0.044	0.045	0.043	0.043	14,300,000
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.2	0.21	0.2	0.21	1,570,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co B	0.22	0.22	0.215	0.215	500,000
Omico Corp.	0.0042	0.0042	0.0042	0.0042	12,000,000
Polar Mines & Dev't Corp.	0.016	0.016	0.015	0.015	12,000,000
Philex Mining Corp. B	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	370,000
United Paragon Mining Co.	0.045	0.045	0.045	0.045	600,000
OIL					
Imperial Res.	0.017	0.017	0.017	0.017	2,000,000
Interport Res.	0.0034	0.0034	0.0034	0.0034	4,000,000
Interport Res. B	0.0032	0.0032	0.0032	0.0032	2,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.0042	0.0042	0.004	0.004	56,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. B	0.0042	0.0042	0.0042	0.0042	34,000,000
The Philodrill Corp. A	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	10,000
The Philodrill Corp. B	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	800,000
Pacifica	0.013	0.013	0.013	0.013	3,100,000
Sinophil Corp.	0.0575	0.0575	0.0575	0.0575	100,000
South China Resources Inc.	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	30,000
Vulcan Ind'l	0.14	0.16	0.14	0.15	800,000

	SHARES	VALUE (P)
Banks & Fin Svc	1,689,060	88,047,450.00
Comm'l & Ind'l	277,938,950	306,971,670.00
PRO	34,429,000	133,739,500.00
Mining	41,390,000	1,472,200.00
OIL	102,840,000	740,950.00
GRAND TOTALS :	458,287,010	530,971,770.00

	AVERAGES	
Banks & Fin Svc	548.35	UP 0.65
Comm'l & Ind'l	1,788.16	DOWN 3.72
PRO	597.42	DOWN 9.62
Mining	1,294.70	UP 31.51
OIL	1.38	DOWN 0.11
All Shares Index	743.88	DOWN 2.98
Composite	1,323.96	DOWN 4.54

NO. OF ADVANCES: 26; NO. OF DECLINES: 37; NO. OF UNCHANGED: 46; NO. OF TRADED ISSUES: 109; NO. OF TRADES: 2,193

CURRENCIES

April 26, 2002

Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Foreign currency in US$	Foreign currency in Peso
United States	Dollar	1.113214	1.000000	50.8290
Japan	Yen	0.008652	0.007772	0.3950
United Kingdom	Pound	1.620951	1.456100	74.0121
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.142734	0.128218	6.5172
Switzerland	Franc	0.683288	0.613798	31.1987
Canada	Dollar	0.711137	0.638814	32.4703
Singapore	Dollar	0.614866	0.552334	28.0746
Australia	Dollar	0.605666	0.544070	27.6545
Bahrain	Dinar	2.952979	2.652661	134.8321
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.296850	0.266660	13.5541
Brunei	Dollar	0.611320	0.549149	27.9127
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000119	0.000107	0.0054
Thailand	Baht	0.025769	0.023148	1.1766
UAE	Dirham	0.303097	0.272272	13.8393
Korea	Won	0.000865	0.000777	0.0395
Euro	Euro	1.000000	0.898300	45.6597
Brazil	Real	0.469909	0.422119	21.4559
Denmark	Kroner	0.134601	0.120912	6.1458
India	Rupee	0.022765	0.020450	1.0395
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.292951	0.263158	13.3761
Mexico	New Peso	0.119348	0.107210	5.4494
New Zealand	Dollar	0.500952	0.450005	22.8733
Norway	Kroner	0.131782	0.118380	6.0171
Pakistan	Rupee	0.018600	0.016708	0.8493
South Africa	Rand	0.102466	0.092045	4.6786
Sweden	Kroner	0.108261	0.097251	4.9432
Syria	Pound	0.025300	0.022727	1.1552
Taiwan	NT Dollar	0.032100	0.028835	1.4657
Venezuela	Bolivar	0.001315	0.001181	0.0600

Yazaki Torres allots ₱1.3B for 5-year expansion plan

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

YAZAKI Torres Manufacturing Inc., the country's leading automotive parts maker, is spending up to P1.3 billion over the next five years to expand its Calamba factory and jack up exports to the United States, Europe and Japan.

Yazaki Torres president Feliciano Torres said the expansion was meant to meet the increased demand for automotive parts from its existing customer base, which includes automotive giants Toyota, Mitsubishi, Honda and Nissan.

The expansion program should boost Yazaki Torres' manpower by 67 percent from 6,000 to 10,000 upon completion of the expansion plan.

The Philippine Economic Zone Authority has already granted incentives to the first phase of Yazaki Torres' expansion program, which is worth P510 million. The project will generate $92.5 million in annual exports and 1,372 new jobs.

The expansion program is just in time for the phaseout of local content requirements starting July this year until its abolition in July 2003.

The Motor Vehicle Development Program mandates local assemblers of cars, commercial vehicles and motorcycles to use local parts in their production for up to 40 percent of the final product. These changes are meant to fulfill the country's commitment to the United States to eliminate non-tariff barriers collectively known as Trade Related Investment Measures (Trims).

Without local content requirements, auto parts makers must fight it out with foreign suppliers for supply contracts with assemblers.

Yazaki Torres, a 60-40 joint venture between the Torres family and Yazaki Corp. of Japan, has continually expanded its factory since 1976 as customers rated highly its production.

Yazaki-Torres is the country's biggest producer of wiring harness with a capacity to churn out electronic fittings for 75,000 cars a month. Its other products are automotive instruments, battery cable, plug cords, low-voltage wire and vinyl tape. It exports 95 percent of its output and rakes in $170 million a year.

UNIVERSITY OF ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

Master's Program in
APPLIED BUSINESS ECONOMICS

LEARN FROM THE EXPERTS the quantitative tools of econômic and business analyses. Draw out strategic and policy implications of business decisions for top management.

DR. BERNARDO VILLEGAS
Renowned Economist
Dean, School of Economics
University of Asia and the Pacific

QUALIFYING EXAMS
May 11 & 18, 2002

For inquiries, please call (02) 634-3043 • (02) 637-8549 or e-mail abep@uap.edu.ph
www.uap.edu.ph

ABS-CBN sets systems upgrade to cut expenses

By Doris C. Dumlao

ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp. will invest bulk of its P1 billion in capital expenditures this year to upgrade its technology so as to reduce production costs as it makes inroads into the Asian markets, a company statement said on Friday.

The company announced that it would soon fully operate its digital control booth, deploy a new digital satellite electronic news gathering van, launch the newsroom automation system that would streamline the operations of its integrated news departments and boost post-production technology.

"Investing in the latest equipment and technology is part of ABS-CBN's thrust to create efficiency in its operations not only to maintain its dominance locally but also to establish a foothold in the global entertainment market," the statement said.

ABS-CBN's capital expenditure for this year was slashed from P2.5 billion in 2001 amid weak airtime revenues, but the company expected its spending in technology to bear fruit.

As the digital control booth becomes fully operational by July, for instance, some of the other shows now being shot on location will soon be done in the studios.

"This will translate to savings amounting to more than P100 million a year, considering the costs of logistics, rental of locations, wear and tear of equipment and others for the location shoot of the network's programs," it said.

The company also said the new digital satellite electronic van to be used by its news and current affairs department was a first in Philippine broadcasting. The P25-million van boasts of quality signal and no-delay transmission of live news coverage.

Also expected to be launched in July is the Newsroom Automation System, which will streamline the operations of ABS-CBN's integrated news departments including Channel 2, Studio 23, ABS-CBN News Channel, DZMM and the Regional Network Group.

"Maximizing non-linear technology coupled with low resolution browsing on the desktop and by using video servers for playout, the new system will ensure faster and more efficient broadcasting of the news," it explained.

Using similar technology, it said the Post Production Server, for the TV Production Group, would also streamline the recording, editing and airing of programs for better quality and efficiency.

Cocktales

From page B3

The Friday performance has even become a magnet for both pro-Erap (Rosemarie Zamora and her Russian DI was there, and so were Robert Aventajado and F. Enrico Alfiler) and anti-Erap personalities who, thankfully, abandon their political hostilities as they relive their wild, carefree, juvenile days.

Short takes

• AMID the indecision of PCGG/Malacañang, the Erap board of the sequestered Philippine Overseas Telecommunications Corp. will attempt to cling to its power by holding a special stockholders' meeting this morning at the POTC offices.

Lawyer Victoria de los Reyes, the corporate secretary under whose watch the sequestered Citation II jet was sold without public bidding and with nebulous board approval, is calling the meeting.

• AND speaking of ABS-CBN, the "ph" designation for web addresses reserved for Philippine companies is apparently no safeguard for local companies to be preempted by foreign interlopers.

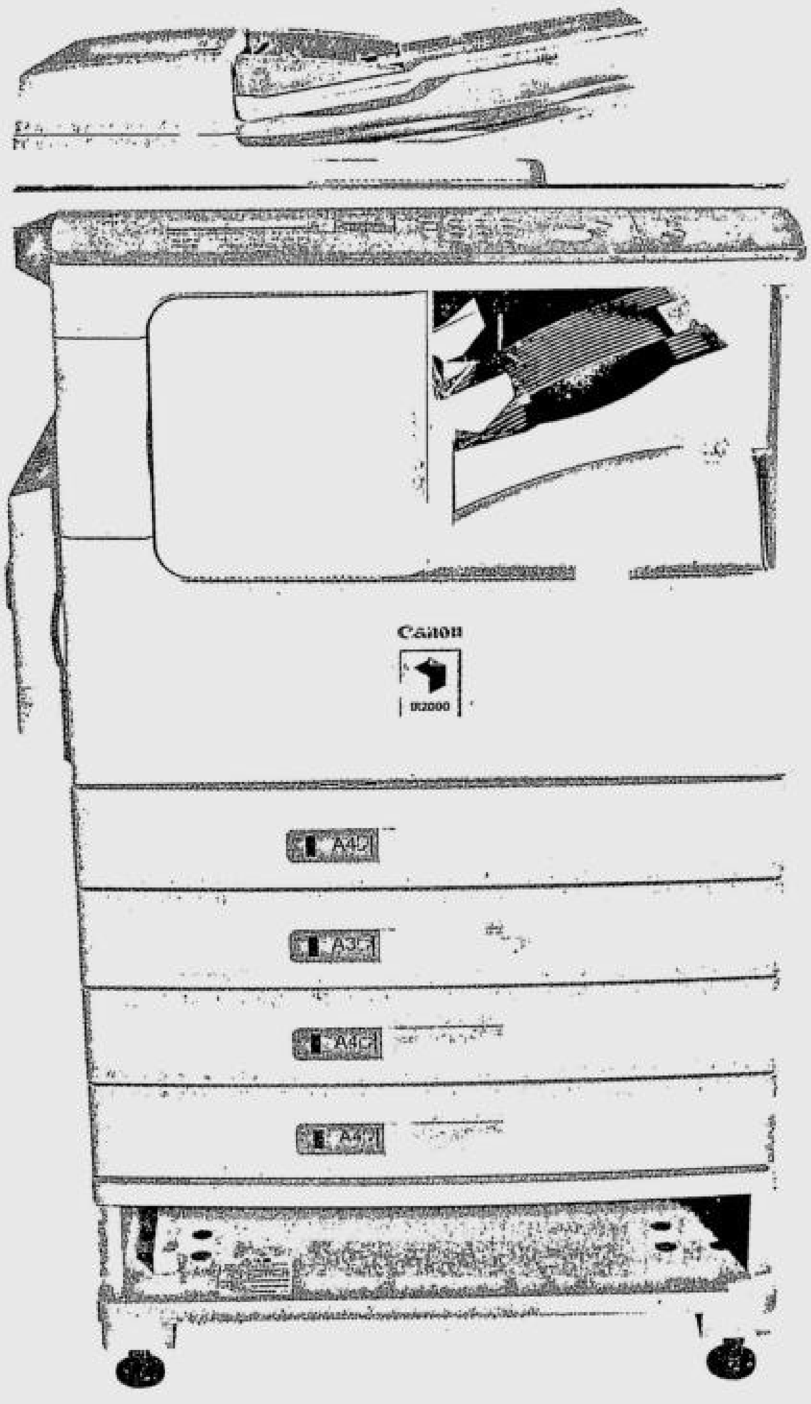
Click on to www.abs-cbn.com.ph, for instance, and a casino page springs up instead.

Heard through the grapevine

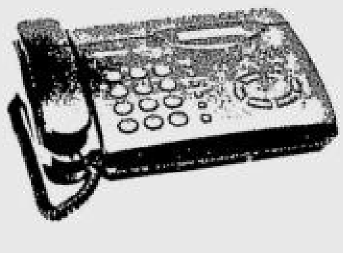
THE ESPIRITU group which is fighting its Malaysian principals in United Overseas Bank has now put the squeeze on businessman Ernest Tanchi, complaining to the Bangko Sentral that Tanchi's Manta Ray Holdings, a bank stockholder, is but a dummy of the Malaysians. *(Cocktales may be reached by e-mail at cocktales_pdi@yahoo.com or at cocktales_pdi@hotmail.com.)*

imageRUNNER™

SAVE
P30,000 WITH EVERY PURCHASE*



FREE
CANON T27



HASSLE-FREE

COPIES AND PRINTS AT 20 PPM • POWERFUL 200MHz PRINT CONTROLLER • ABLE TO PRINT VIA USB CONNECTION

ANYWARE℠

Finally, a digital multifunction workgroup solution without the hassles of ordinary digital copiers. It's the new Canon imageRUNNER 2000. With a powerful, fast 200MHz print processor, it dramatically reduces your waiting time when printing critical documents. Plus, the iR2000 allows copy scanning to take place even while printing is in progress. What's more, now is the best time to acquire one. That's because you get a big discount for every purchase* (IR 2000 - P30,000 less on cash basis) plus a T27 Canon Fax for free! So don't wait, ask your local Canon representative about the amazing imageRUNNER 2000 and take the hassle-free route to office efficiency.

**Shown with optional accessories

Canon

Promo Period: April 22 - June 30, 2002

Canon Marketing (Philippines) Inc. Marvin Plaza Bldg., 2153 Don Chino Roces Ave., Makati City Tel. Nos. 812-6047 / 812-6076 to 79 E-mail Address: info@canon.com.ph
Branch Offices: CMP-BATAAN Dilig Bldg., Manuel Banzon St., Balanga, Bataan Tel No. (047) 237-2151 • CMP-CEBU Door 10, 1P & 20 Free Star Arcade Hernan Cortes St., Subangdaku Mandaue City Tel. No. (032) 345-3680, (032) 345-3821, Fax No. (032) 345-3691 • CMP-DAVAO Door1 Navigators Bldg., Ponce cor. Gempesaw St., Davao City Tel. No. (082) 222-3392 Fax No. (082) 227-4820 • CMP-LA UNION Ground Floor M. Peralta Bldg., Quezon Ave., Sevilla Norte, San Fernando City, La Union Tel. No. (072) 242-0440, (072) 242-4587 • CMP-LEGASPI Door 7 & 8 CEA Bldg., Ground Floor, Lapu-Lapu St., Legaspi City Tel. No. (052) 480-6331, (052) 214-3863

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1444 Series of 2002

TAIWAN'S PUNITIVE DUTIES ON RP EXPORTS

DTI readies tougher barriers to cement imports

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

THE DEPARTMENT of Trade and Industry will not appeal a decision by Taiwan's Ministry of Finance to slap punitive duties on Philippine cement exports but will instead retry to set up tariff barriers against cement imports from Taiwan and other countries.

Trade and Industry Secretary Manuel A. Roxas II said he "lauded" the Taiwan MOF's action against Philippine cement imports which was a result of its government's "unity" in protecting its industries.

Roxas' sarcastic comment was apparently directed at the Tariff Commission (which rebuffed the DTI's findings that cement imports were causing injury to the domestic industry) and the Department of Justice (which opined that the DTI could not overturn or ignore the Tariff Commission's recommendation).

"We are in the same position as Taiwan. I want to help the industry and I am not giving up and we are looking at other avenues," Roxas said.

Taiwan imposed a 45-percent duty on Philippine cement for the next five years after a probe showed that Philippine cement makers were shipping their excess output to Taiwan at P40 per bag.

Following the stinging rejection of Philippine Cement Manufacturers Corp.'s safeguard measures petition by the Tariff Commission last month, Roxas vowed to push for the proposed tariff hike on cement in the Cabinet-level Tariff and Related Matters (TRM), which he also chairs.

However, the matter has not been taken up in any of the TRM meetings in the past few weeks reportedly due to strong objections to Roxas' proposal from other economic managers. A source said there were concerns that granting cement companies with a tariff protection could set a precedent to other industries that would most likely demand the same favorable treatment.

While Roxas looks for other means to save the foreign-dominated cement industry, Philcemcor has also been busy trying to resuscitate its protectionist campaign. Last week, it successfully obtained a temporary restraining order from the Court of Appeals stopping the government from implementing the Tariff Commission ruling. This allowed the DTI to continue collecting up to June this year the P20.60 provisional duty imposed on cement imports last December.

Roxas has openly pushed for Philcemcor's petition to impose punitive duties and quotas on cement imports. In his view, cement imports have not helped in lowering the prices of cement and that it was better for the government to protect the local cement manufacturers in exchange for their commitment to lower prices to between P125 and P135 per bag.

But consumer groups insist that the high cement prices were brought about by a collusion among the domestic cement producers. They said cement imports found the margins wide enough to cover the additional cost of shipping their cement to the Philippines.

The consumer groups noted that prices began to rise when the Big Three—Holcim, Lafarge and Cemex—gobbled up 90 percent of domestic capacity, cut down their output, and divvied up the country into territories. Before the Big Three came in, the consumer groups claimed cement imports were hardly a factor mainly because margins were too thin to offset shipping costs.

Consumer groups claimed that cement imports would stop if cement prices would be brought down to between P100 and P110 per bag, which is more than double the P40-per-bag export price to Taiwan.

Resistance to merger, consolidation still strong

BAROY, Lanao del Norte—It will probably take the retirement of their founders before many rural banks in the country can be persuaded to go into mergers and consolidations.

Lawyer Nicolas Lim, president of the Rural Bankers Association of the Philippines (RBAP), said the reluctance of the owners to give up the control of their rural banking operations provided a very slim chance for mergers and consolidations among rural banks.

Lim said a number of rural bank owner-founders continued to play active roles in the management of many of the country's 790 rural banks, mostly wholly owned by wealthy families in the countryside.

"These first-generation owner-managers derive a high sense of achievement seeing their rural banking business thrive," said Lim, president and chief executive officer (CEO) of family-owned Kapatagan Valley Bank (KVB) based here.

"If we look at it along this line, their resistance to mergers is thus understandable. So basically it is cultural," he explained.

The Bangko ng Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) has adopted a policy of encouraging rural banks to pool their resources to strengthen their competitiveness and improve their services. The BSP also believes that mergers and consolidations are needed to rationalize the industry.

Lim said estimates showed that about 20 percent of the rural banking industry would benefit from mergers and consolidations, in terms of improved ability to cater to the expanding financing needs of clients.

Rural banks traditionally cater to rural enterprises, mostly small-scale. They are able to establish stronger relations with micro entrepreneurs, which were once the domain of "5-6" lenders, through innovative lending strategies.

Lim said that instances of mergers among rural banks remained negligible despite the BSP policy adopted two years ago. Most of those that pushed through, according to Lim, involved rural banks whose first-generation leaders are going into retirement and have no family members willing to take on their responsibilities in the banks.

In some cases, mergers took place on the decision of second- or third-generation rural bank managers who are more open to such ideas and can easily appreciate its business wisdom, noted Lim.

"Today, an increasing number of rural banks in the country are run by heirs who are well-schooled managers, displaying keener business sense and an outlook akin to the modern economy," he stressed.

A former corporate lawyer for the Phinma Group, Lim expressed confidence that this new breed of rural banking leaders would lead the way toward a stronger industry.

Numbering 1,400 branches, the country's rural banks serve 70 percent of the total number of clients of the entire banking system, mostly small- and medium-scale enterprises.

Overall, according to Lim, the rural banking system accounts for a mere 2 percent of the total amount lent by the banking system.

The entry of commercial banks into micro financing is expected to cause a shakeup in the rural banking sector. ***Ryan D. Rosauro, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

SM group plans to diversify into condominium business

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE SM group of retail tycoon Henry Sy plans to diversify into the middle-income condominium market via a joint venture between its property development arm SM Development Corp. and mall chain operator SM Prime Holdings Inc.

In an interview with INQUIRER at the sidelines of the SMDC annual stockholders' meeting last week, company president Rogelio Cabunag said some of the shopping malls managed by SM Prime—particularly those located in Fairview and Las Piñas—had excess land that could be utilized for high-rise residential development.

"Right now, these properties are owned by SM Prime so we can go into a joint venture with it. We can construct the condominium, and SM Prime will own the land," Cabunag said.

Transformed by the SM group from a mutual fund company, SMDC is engaged in both real estate development and investments in various securities. But the company has focused more into investing in marketable securities, such as putting equity in other property companies, rather than pursuing its own real estate development.

With the property slump in the last four years, the strategy to focus more resources on marketable securities has paid off. SMDC has built about P5 billion in resources without incurring any debt. Of the total resources, P2.34 billion is in the form of cash while P1.7 billion is in liquid investments such as fixed income securities.

Having built enough cash hoard, Cabunag said SMDC was well prepared for future property ventures. Within the next two to three years, he said the company should be able to start with its high-rise residential ventures that would be sold for about P3 million per unit.

He said the SM malls in Fairview and Las Piñas were sitting in more than 20 hectares of land, only about half of which was being used. The excess land, he said, would be the site of SMDC's maiden condominium projects.

"There is still an oversupply (of condo units), but hopefully, demand will start picking up soon," Cabunag said, sharing the view of Ayala Land Inc. that there was a big untapped opportunity in the middle-income market segment.

A joint venture with SMPH will be more cost-effective since SMDC will no longer have to pay for land acquisition, he added.

The SM group, whose core interests are in retailing, mall development and banking, recently diversified into the leisure estate sector by buying the majority of newly listed Highlands Prime Leisure Properties Inc. SMDC itself has a share of 16 percent equity in Highlands Prime out of the total 53-percent stake acquired by the SM group.

For the first quarter of the year, Cabunag said SMDC yielded about P171 million in net profits, 16-17 percent lower than the year-ago level.

"We're locking in trading profits," Cabunag said, noting that the company was targeting to rake in at least P440 million in profits for the full year.

VICTORIAS
MILLING COMPANY

ATTENTION VMC SHAREHOLDERS

We are in the process of updating our shareholders records to ensure that all notices of meetings, and other correspondence such as annual financial statements and status reports from the Company are sent to our shareholders properly. In case there is any change in your mailing address, please advise the Company by filling out the form below and sending it back to:

VICTORIAS MILLING CO., INC.
9126 Sultana corner Honradez Streets
Barangay Olympia, Makati City 1207

or

VICTORIAS MILLING CO., INC.
VICMICO, Negros Occidental 6100

Or you may fax back to:

Attention: Mr. Nilo A. FlorCruz
AVP & Acting Corporate Secretary
Fax Nos. Makati Office : (02) 895-4150
Victorias Office : (034) 399-33-78

Shareholder Printed Name: ____________

Mailing Address: ____________
____
____

Specimen Signature ____________

Call or e-mail for invitations to the ALOHA Show on May 15, 2002 @ New World Renaissance Hotel

herever hatever henever
INFORMATION SOLUTIONS TO MEET YOUR NEEDS

Aloha®
POINT OF SALE SYSTEM

Windows
IBM StoreProven

WEB LEADING
MANAGEMENT CONTROL
CUSTOMER'S CHOICE OF HARDWARE
WIRELESS CAPABILITIES
INDUSTRY LEADING REDUNDANCY

alohaenterprise.com

Information Resource Management
Centralized Data Management, Intranet Hosting
Data Warehousing, Interactive Operations
Drilldown Analysis, Security, Management Alerts
Profitability, Empowerment, Efficiency
On Time Actions Anywhere

CONNECTING THE FUTURE

No question about it. Table Service or Quick Service, your customers are your lifeline. With every new day comes new challenges - training, peak periods, EOD reports, inventory, tracking food and labor costs.

ALOHA, the award winning 100% Windows-based Point Of Sale solution, lets you manage your operations and still have time to focus on the most important part of your business - your customer.

Let the world's leading technology help your business today.

MICROSOFT RETAIL APPLICATION DEVELOPER

Aloha
www.alohapos.com

IBM Retail Store Solutions
www.ibm.com/industries/retail/store

The Commitment Behind The Quality

V-Tech PACIFIC
REDEFINING POS SOLUTIONS

V-TECH PACIFIC PHILS., INC.
Suite 403 Metropolitan Terraces Condominium
Dao St. corner Metropolitan Avenue and
Kamagong St., Makati City 1200 Philippines
Tel: (632) 890-7702 to 07 Fax: (632) 897-0626
24 HOUR SERVICE HOTLINE : 0917-540-7400

Send mail to pos@vtp.com.ph or visit our website at www.vtp.com.ph

Life begins at 80

QUESTIONS OF POLICIES

Honesto C. General

CONSUELO D. Sison (80 something, she says) wrote one of the most remarkable letters I have ever received. The letter was in response to my column of March 11, "Why is retirement compulsory?" Listen to her.

"You are never more correct when you say that retirees with their wealth of experience and expertise are a resource the country can ill afford to waste. On the other hand, the younger ones in the work force have to move up the corporate ladder and the older folks have to give way to them.

"Although I agree with you that at 60 or 65, many are still mentally and physically fit, and to retire at that age seems such a foolish idea.

"We can retire at 60 or 65, but we can still be useful and happy in other forms of involvement in our daily lives no matter if our work will no longer be monetarily rewarding. And if we survive until we are 80, everybody is surprised that we are still alive. They treat us with respect for having lived so long. Actually they seem surprised that we can still walk and talk sensibly.

"Retirement to many means a time when one can just sit back and watch the world pass by or sit on a rocking chair and watch TV. For some like me it meant getting on with life doing something more interesting and useful.

"After a few years spent in visiting some of my children now making out in other countries, I took care of a bedridden spouse for 5-1/2 years. This did not keep me from getting involved in community affairs. I was lucky to find one—in an organization of concerned homeowners associations whose main endeavor is to improve the quality of life in our homes. At 81, I am deep in NGOs whose varied advocacy activities have led me to the city council, to the halls of Congress and to the Senate. My experience in government service and expertise gained from membership in professional organizations especially as delegate to world conferences have been put to good use in my present work.

"Folks should try to make it to 80. It is the best time of life. People forgive you for anything. If you ask me, life begins at 80. I am looking forward to my next 20 years, God willing."

Ms Sison retired as secondary school principal of Quezon City at the age of 63 in 1983 after 43 years in the educational system. She is the administrative officer of Alpha Village Homeowners Association in Capitol Hills, Quezon City. She is the president of her clan's foundation, the secretary of her 1941 Philippine Normal School and Araullo High School class '39. She is also the auditor-trustee of the Friends of Intramuros, an active member of the Heritage Conservative Society, the United Peoples Against Crime (Upac) and the ABS-CBN Bantay Kalikasan.

While in government service during the '60s, '70s and '80s, she was the president of the Quezon City Teachers Association (PPSTA) and the president of the National Capital Region Association of Secondary School Principals (of Public and Private Schools).

She has 13 children and 28 grandchildren. A truly redoubtable lady, a national treasure. I can only hope I will still be healthy enough to get invited to her 100th birthday.

PCA to tap levy funds for farmers' insurance, livelihood projects

By Christine A. Gaylican

COCONUT farmers are set to receive an expanded insurance program and funds for micro-finance projects as the Philippine Coconut Authority and Presidential Commission on Good Government seek the release of P2 billion in cash dividends from the Coconut Industry Investment Fund (CIIF) Group of Companies.

PCA Administrator Danilo Coronacion told the INQUIRER the PCA had already drawn a scheme that would provide farmers access to the fresh fund.

The P2 billion will come from the income of the CIIF oil mills for years 1998 to 2001 worth P1.3 billion and the excess cash dividends over carrying cost and loan amortization of the CIIF-SMC block from 1999 to 2001 worth P700 million.

The amount will go to a micro-finance access fund that aims to provide working capital for livelihood projects of coconut farmers and farm workers, the PCA said.

"The strategy is to extend financing to individual coconut farmers or to groups of farmers through the Grameen Bank scheme," said Coronacion.

Gov't eyes return to sales tax system

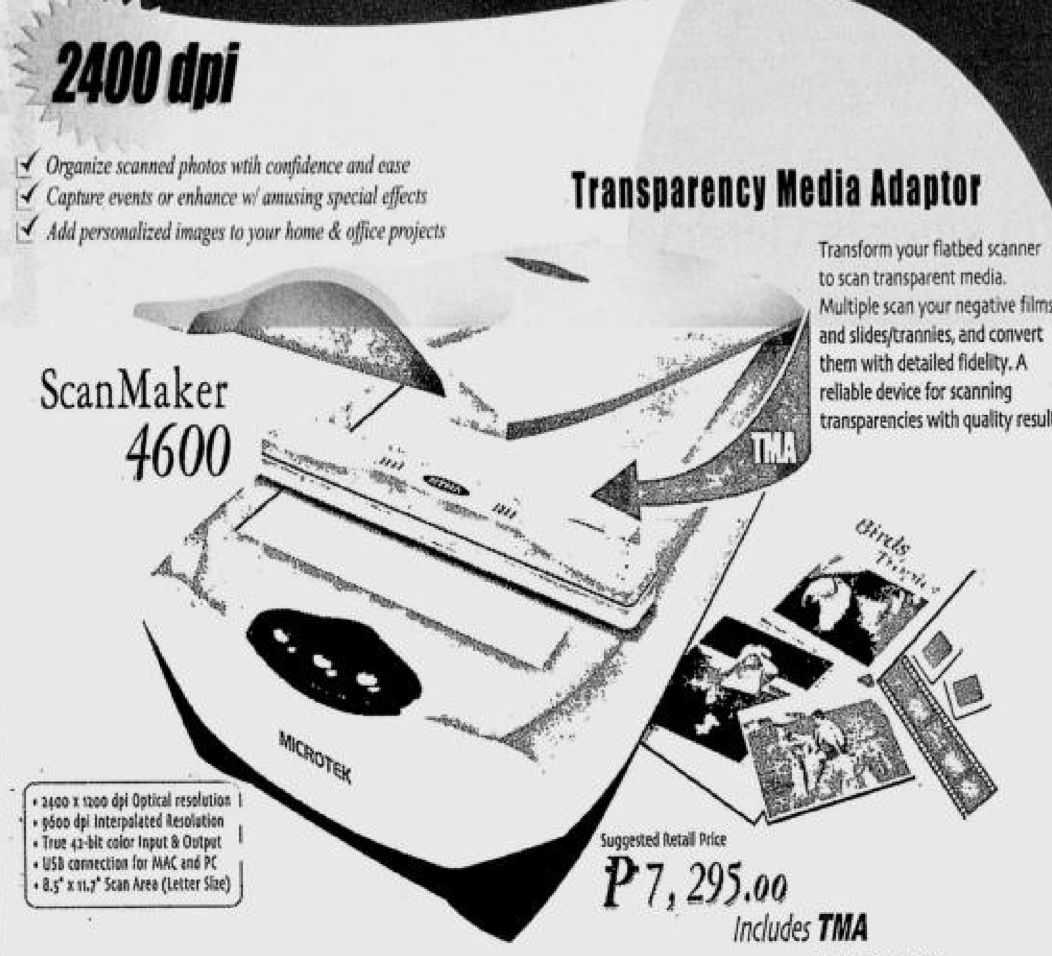
From page B1

ing raw materials and services from the output VAT from where the 10-percent impost was collected.

"We have to improve the invoicing system so that we would not get fake receipts as input VAT," Bañez said.

An economist, Teves said that he preferred the sales tax system as a tool to improve the government's revenue collection.

"I believe that VAT is not practical yet for the Philippines if the ultimate goal is to maximize revenue at the least cost. The government may have to temporarily give up what is more equitable for all in favor of tax collection," the Landbank chief said.



Scan Color as deep as the ocean with resolution as high as the sky
Two Thousand Four Hundred itty bitty dots in every scan

2400 dpi

✓ Organize scanned photos wtih confidence and ease
✓ Capture events or enhance w/ amusing special effects
✓ Add personalized images to your home & office projects

Transparency Media Adaptor

Transform your flatbed scanner to scan transparent media. Multiple scan your negative films and slides/trannies, and convert them with detailed fidelity. A reliable device for scanning transparencies with quality results.

ScanMaker 4600

- 2400 x 1200 dpi Optical resolution
- 9600 dpi Interpolated Resolution
- True 42-bit color Input & Output
- USB connection for MAC and PC
- 8.5" x 11.7" Scan Area (Letter Size)

Suggested Retail Price
P7,295.00
Includes TMA

MICROTEK
www.microtek.com

For Inquiries: Call us at 727-3960 to 69
Email us at inquire@bndistributors.com.ph

Exclusive Distributed:
BN Distributors, Inc.

PRIORITY
OVERNIGHT
ups
48 HRS
ups
72 HRS
ups

Fast, faster, or fastest. You decide. After all, no one knows how urgently you need something delivered more than you do. And with our new air hub in the Philippines, UPS offers you the widest choice of delivery services. Like overnight to major business centers around the world, or within 48 and 72 hours. The choice is yours. However fast you need it to arrive, UPS gets it there. On time, all the time, to over 200 countries and territories around the world. Guaranteed*. Just one of the many things you'll find faster, easier and better with Asia's new delivery system – UPS.

UPS
We're on top of it.
www.ups.com

*For more information on product offerings and guarantee details, and to schedule a pick-up, please call hotline numbers 853-3333, 512-1350 and 1-800-10-PICK-UPS.

BSP to lift 2-year moratorium on issuance of trust license

By Clarissa S. Batino

THE BANGKO Sentral ng Pilipinas has approved a circular lifting the two-year moratorium on the issuance of new trust licenses to commercial and thrift banks.

BSP Deputy Governor Alberto Reyes said the policy would provide banks, especially the thrift banks, new sources of revenues at a time when the banking industry's profitability was declining.

The central bank suspended the issuance of new trust licenses to banks in July 1999. It was also when the BSP suspended the granting of new licenses for foreign currency deposit units.

However, the central bank resumed the issuance of FCDU licenses to thrift banks last month.

Of the 104 thrift banks operating in the country, only 36 have existing trust licenses and 16 have licenses to operate FCDUs. Reyes said most commercial banks already have trust and FCDU licenses.

A trust license allows a bank to service the retirement and preneed plans of corporate clients, to open an escrow facility, to be a custodian for a client and to operate a common trust fund.

"Banks are saying that they do not have enough sources of income especially at this point in time when lending is still sluggish. The trust license will allow them to offer more services and improve their profitability," said the BSP official.

Reyes noted that investors and borrowers, for their part, would have more banks to choose from to handle their transactions.

Reyes said a thrift bank would be allowed to secure a trust license if its capitalization would at least be P650 million for those based in Metro Manila and P110 million for those in the provinces.

The capital is double the minimum requirement of the BSP of P325 million and P52.5 million, respectively.

A thrift bank seeking a trust license must also have a capital-to-asset ratio of 12 percent. Savings banks with trust licenses are required to double their capital within two years to meet the capitalization requirement, said the BSP official.

The thrift banks with trust licenses include Asiatrust Development Bank, BPI Family Savings Bank, First e-Bank, Insular Life Savings and Trust Co., Keppel Bank Phils., Malayan Bank, Merchants Savings and Loan Bank, Mindanao Development Bank, Philam Savings Bank, Planters Development Bank, Premiere Development Bank, RCBC Development Bank, The Manila Banking Corp., and Unitrust Development Bank. These banks also have FCDU licenses.

TRO signals victory for local industries, says Philcemcor

THE COURT of Appeals' order restraining the implementation of a Tariff Commission decision denying safeguard measures for local cement firms and the refund of the provisional duties paid by cement importers is a victory for all domestic industries that are seriously injured by the influx of cheap imported commodities.

This was the assessment of lawyer Edcel C. Lagman who filed a petition for certiorari, prohibition and mandamus on behalf of Philcemcor. The petition sought to restrain the secretary of trade and industry, the secretary of finance and the customs commissioner from implementing a "negative report" of the Tariff Commission and an order to refund some P86 million in provisional safeguard tariff imposed on cement imports.

In his petition, Lagman raised the issue of "whether the DTI secretary is forced to implement a report by the Tariff Commission that he had, himself, found baseless and flawed." The petition also raised the issue of "whether the Tariff Commission has unbridled discretion in evaluating safeguard applications by using standards not provided for in the law and in the implementing rules and regulations."

The Philcemcor counsel also said that the case was filed with the Court of Appeals and not with the Court of Tax Appeals because the Safeguard Measures Act failed to expressly grant appellate jurisdiction to the Court of Tax Appeals when an application for safeguard measure was denied.

DOTC seeks more funds for railway projects

By Abigail L. Ho

THE DEPARTMENT of Transportation and Communications is seeking an increase in the P6-billion budget earmarked as counterpart funding for its foreign-assisted projects to enable the department to subsidize the country's railway systems and projects.

In an interview last week, DOTC Undersecretary for railways Wilfredo Trinidad said the department had tried to offer government railway projects to the private sector. He said that most of these projects, however, failed to generate private sector interest mainly because the government could not offer any subsidy that will make these projects feasible.

"But the (National Economic and Development Authority and the Department of Finance) are very reluctant to approve our request to subsidize the railways. They told us to work within our budget," he told the INQUIRER.

Trinidad said that, with the tight budget the DOTC had, it was impossible for the department to implement all the railway projects that President Macapagal-Arroyo tasked the agency to do.

"There are no takers for most of the projects because the government cannot offer any subsidy. The Neda and the DOF should double our budget to at least cover initial payments for the projects," he added.

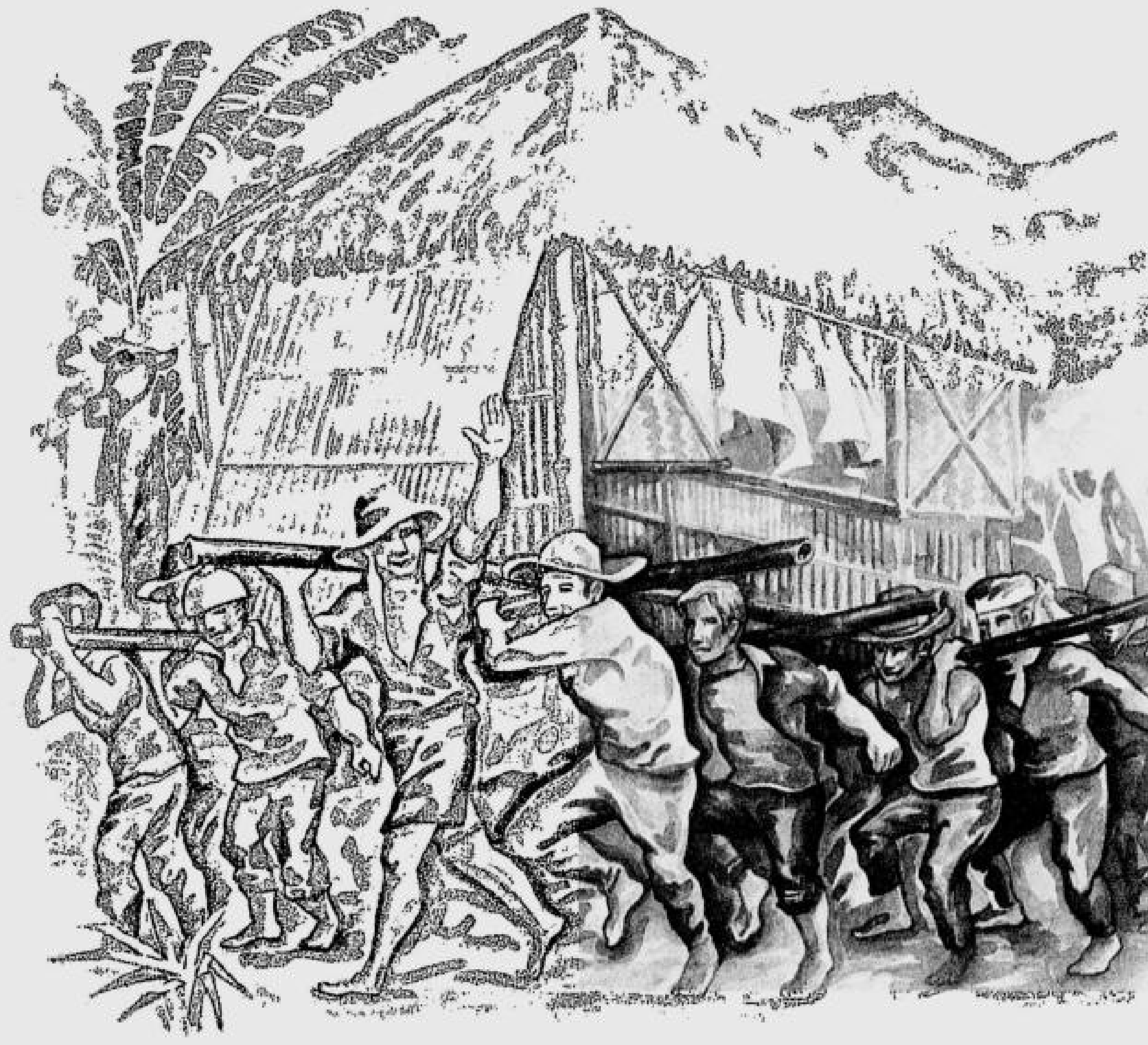
The Neda required the DOTC to submit a medium-term investment plan stating its priority projects and other needs over the next five years, Trinidad said.

According to its projections, the DOTC needed at least P12 billion to P13 billion to encourage private sector participation in railway projects.

"If they really want us to implement what the President wants to implement, they need to give us sufficient budget. Neda already knows this, but the government is also having funding constraints so it's difficult for them to approve our request," he said.

One of the projects that the government cannot implement mainly due to funding constraints is the Philippine National Railways Manila-Calabarzon Express (MCX), which was earlier awarded to Ayala Land Inc.

On May 4, transfer your home loan and get all the help you need.



Get the lowest interest rates and more at HSBC's Home Loan Day.

HOME LOAN 9.75%* ANNUAL RATE

Take advantage of our lowest interest rates in years. Imagine how much you can save on your current home loan!

Plus, if you call today to book an appointment, you're automatically entitled to a special **0.5% cash rebate** on your home loan. For example, a P3 million loan gets you a P15,000 rebate - more than enough to buy appliances or furniture for your home. So you get added value and great savings!

** After May 4, rates may change w/o prior notice.*

Our Home Loan advisors will be on hand to help you maximize your savings. All it takes is 15 minutes, thanks to our Home Loan Simulator. You'll also find affordable house & lot packages from Brittany Corporation and Community Innovations Inc.

Join us this Saturday at HSBC Savings Bank Alabang. Book an appointment, so the world's local bank can help you in true *bayanihan* spirit. Call now!

HOME LOAN HELPLINE 878-5151

HSBC
The world's local bank

US economy raced ahead in first quarter

WASHINGTON—The US economy roared into 2002 at its fastest pace more than two years, emerging from last year's recession with surprising strength, government data showed on Friday.

However, some questions lingered about whether the economy could keep up such an energetic clip and this, combined with data showing a slip in consumer sentiment, reined in US financial markets.

US gross domestic product, measuring the value of goods and services produced within American borders, raced ahead at an annual rate of 5.8 percent in the first three months of this year—a full percentage point higher than the forecasts of private economists.

The data, issued by the Commerce Department, showed the biggest GDP gain since an 8.3-percent jump in the final quarter of 1999.

"We are seeing broad-based strength in spending, which will continue to boost production in future," said Steve Wood, chief economist at FinancialOxygen in Walnut Creek, California. "It suggests that we will get into a self-sustaining economic recovery."

A big driving force behind GDP strength was an "inventory swing" that occurred as businesses, who had worked to empty their shelves last year, relied much less heavily on existing inventories to meet demand for their products.

But consumer spending held up well and there were tentative signs the severe contraction in corporate investment may be drawing to a close.

The GDP report, while positive, was not enough to fully erase the nagging worry expressed by many economists, including Federal Reserve Chair Alan Greenspan, that the pace of growth may turn out to be lackluster in coming months.

Indeed, such concerns gained traction on Friday after the University of Michigan reported that its closely watched survey of consumer sentiment retreated in April.

The final April sentiment reading dipped to 93 in the latest month from 95.7 in March as a sluggish stock market and conflict in the Middle East weighed on Americans' moods.

Stocks rallied on the GDP but later succumbed to selling amid a mixed bag of corporate earnings and doubts among traders that the pace of growth would remain vigorous. The Dow Jones industrial average dropped 119 points, or 1.2 percent, to 9,916. Inflation-sensitive bond prices turned positive after initial weakness.

US President George W. Bush on Friday called first-quarter economic growth "an encouraging sign," but said he agreed with his economic team that the swing in inventories was "a major force contributing to the high growth figure."

"This means that the impetus behind growth won't last very long, that we must continue working to make sure this short-term recovery is a long-term recovery," Bush said.

Economists said overall economic growth should moderate in the coming quarters. One-time factors, such as big tax refunds and favorable weather, were seen as helping to boost growth in the early part of the year.

"The implication from the larger swing in inventories is that it means it will be harder to get stronger GDP numbers in subsequent quarters. We won't have as much of an additional swing lifting GDP numbers in subsequent quarters," said Mark Vitner, economist with Wachovia Securities in Charlotte, North Carolina. ***Reuters***

No Hewletts or Packards in new HP board

CUPERTINO, California—Hewlett-Packard shareholders have elected eight members to its board, and for the first time in the company's 63-year history, there's neither a Hewlett nor a Packard among them.

The board decided last month not to renominate Walter Hewlett, the son of cofounder William Hewlett, after he sued the company over its proposed merger with Compaq Computer Corp.

Unlike last month's crowded and contentious gathering on the $19-billion merger, the annual meeting Friday was attended only by about 200 people.

More than 80 percent of the votes were in favor of the slate of candidates, said chief executive Carly Fiorina, who was among those chosen. The slate was nominated by the board last month.

If the merger succeeds, five Compaq directors will join the HP board.

A judge in Delaware is expected to decide soon on Hewlett's lawsuit, which claims HP executives hid internal financial projections showing the deal falling short of publicly promised targets.

Hewlett, who led opposition against the merger, also claimed HP pressured a major investor, Deutsche Bank, to vote in favor of the deal by threatening to withhold business from the bank.

The three-day trial ended Thursday. A ruling was expected within days.

Last week, a preliminary tally of shareholder votes found holders of 51.4 percent of HP shares voted for acquiring Compaq, with 48.6 percent against.

Shares of HP fell 42 cents, to $16.96, in Friday trading on the New York Stock Exchange. ***AP***

Canon
THE BEST TECHNOLOGY IN PRINT
Canon

Beat the summer HEAT

Being stylish has never been this fun. Capture the colors of summer with your Canon S100SP Bubble Jet Printer.

Easy to use and affordable at **P3,300* only.** [illegible] a Canon Mat/Pillow, shades and USB Cable absolutely FREE.

S100SP CANON BUBBLE JET PRINTER

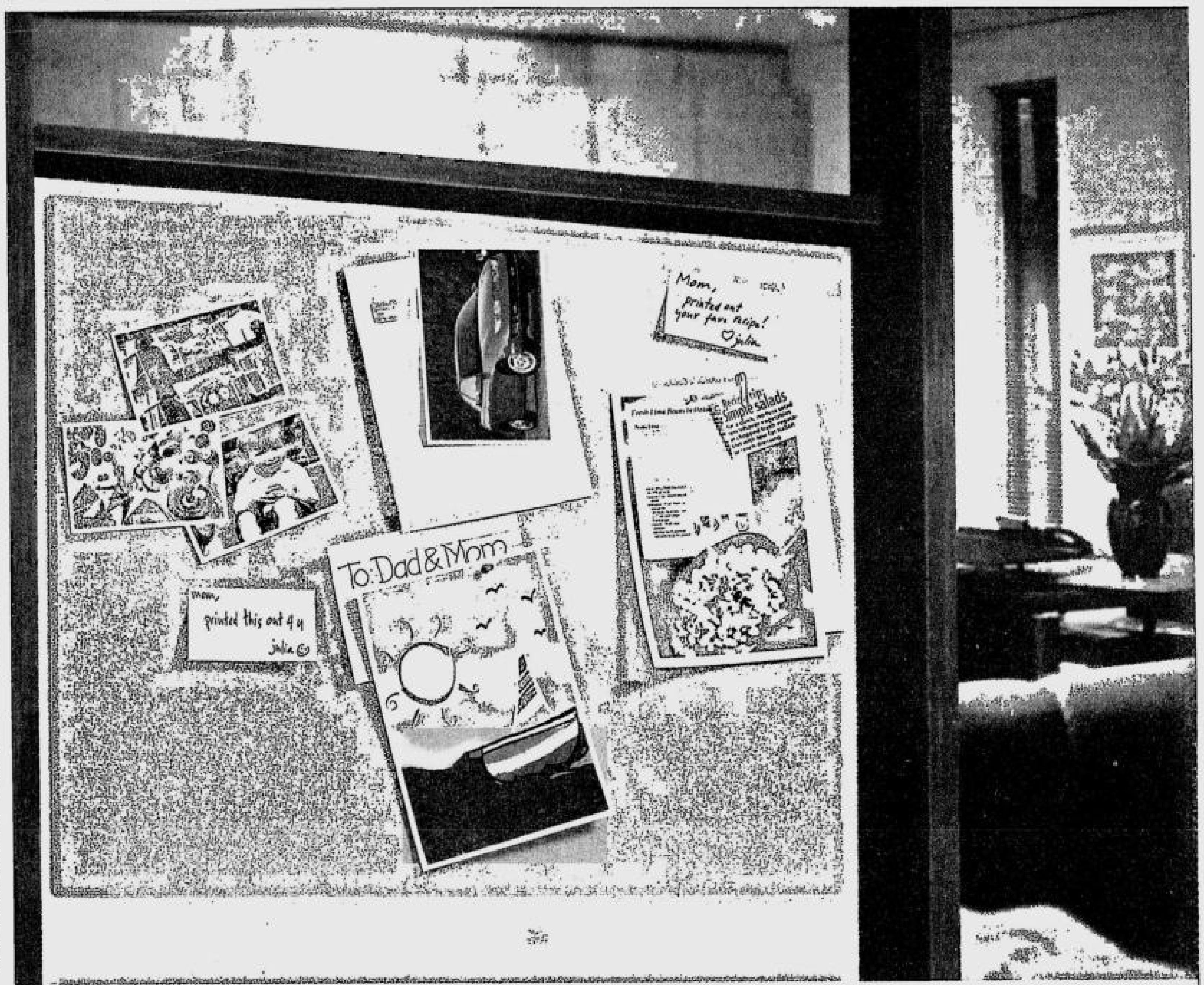
- Stylish, ultra-compact two-tone design
- Four colours with dual cartridge
- Affordable (original) ink cartridges
- Drop Modulation Technology
- Convenient USB interface for faster data transfer
- Single-key print job cancel

A2000 744-0067 • ACCENT MICRO 631-7023 • ACENET COMPUTER 722-6181 • DILLSHE TRADING 740-1888 • ELECTROWORLD 747-2053 • HYTECH INTEGRATED PRODUCTS 722-1122 • NEXGEN MICRO SYSTEM INC. 725-4383 • NT COMPUTER MART 927-2570 • PC CORNER 723-2837 • PC MADNESS 725-0325 • PERIPHERAL SOLUTIONS INC. 637-1200 • PRO DATA SYSTEM 931-2333 • SILICON VALLEY 371-5611 • THE COMPUTER AUTHORITY 637-1200 • VILLMAN COMPUTER 892-2222 • LASER MARKETING (BAGUIO) 074 4333788 • ALL ELECTRONICS (LEGASPI) 052 4806011 • CONCEPT COMPUTER (ILOILO) 033 3350753 • THINKING TOOLS INC. (CEBU) 032-2542227 • COMPUTER WORLD MKTG. (DAVAO) 082 2228251

CANON MARKETING (PHILIPPINES), INC.
Marvin Plaza Bldg., 2153 Don Chino Roces Ave., Makati City
Tel. (632) 8126047 / 8126076 to 79 Fax (632) 8120067
Website: www.canon.com.ph / E-mail: info@canon.com.ph

* Suggested Retail Price for Metro Manila dealers only (Provincial rates may vary)

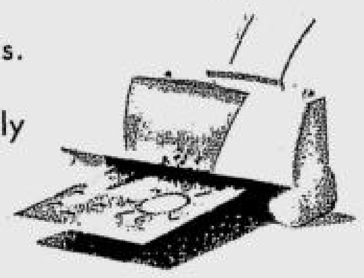
PROMO PERIOD RUNS FROM APRIL 18 TO JUNE 17, 2002.


Mom, printed out your fave recipe! ♡ julia
Simple salads
To: Dad & Mom
mom, printed this out 4 u julia

Your Ideal Family Printer

If being expressive and creative runs in your family, your best bet is the Canon S100SP Bubble Jet Printer. Easy-to-use and affordable, at P3,300*. From printing Dad's digital photos, Mom's recipe cards and Julia's homework – S100SP guarantees clear vivid printouts.

S100SP, every family should have one.



CANON AFFORDABLE INKS

	BC1-21 Black BC1-21 Color	P255.00 P535.00

ALWAYS USE ORIGINAL INK CARTRIDGES FOR BEST RESULTS!
*Suggested retail price for Metro Manila dealers only.

Canon
The best technology in print

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: CANON SINGAPORE PTE LTD. 79 ANSON ROAD #09-01/06 SINGAPORE 079906 INTERNET: http://www.canon.com.ph
CANON MARKETING PHILIPPINES, INC. MARVIN PLAZA BLDG. 2153 DON CHINO ROCES AVENUE, MAKATI CITY. TEL: 812-6047/892-6449 FAX: 810-9797 E-mail address: info@canon.com.ph

CANON PREMIUM DEALERS: A2000 744-0067 • ACCENT MICRO 631-7023 • ACENET COMPUTER 722-6181 • DILLSHE TRADING 740-1888 • ELECTROWORLD 747-2053 • HYTECH INTEGRATED PRODUCTS 722-1122 • NEXGEN MICRO SYSTEM INC. 725-4383 • NT COMPUTER MART 927-2570 • PC CORNER 723-2837 • PC MADNESS 725-0325 • PERIPHERAL SOLUTIONS INC. 637-1200 • PRO DATA SYSTEM 931-2333 • SILICON VALLEY 371-5611 • THE COMPUTER AUTHORITY 637-1200 • VILLMAN COMPUTER 892-2222 • LASER MARKETING-Baguio (074) 433-3788 • ALL ELECTRONICS-Legaspi (052) 480-6011 • CONCEPT COMPUTER-Iloilo (033) 335-0753 • THINKING TOOLS INC.-Cebu (032) 254-2227 • COMPUTER WORLD MARKETING-Davao (082) 222-8251

AUTHORIZED DISTRIBUTOR: INNOVISTA TECHNOLOGIES,INC. 5th Floor ATCO Bldg., Aurora Blvd., San Juan, Metro Manila Tel.: 723-4279 / 723-4276
LAMCO INTERNATIONAL Suite 1804 East Tower Philippines Stock Exchange Bldg., Exchange Road Ortigas Center, Pasig City Tel.: 634-7999 / 631-7023 Fax: 633-6857

Wall Street fears turbulence after steep Dow Jones fall

NEW YORK—US markets face more turbulence after a battering over the past week by investors who remain depressed over the prospects for a corporate recovery despite a strong US economic rebound.

The Dow Jones industrials, capping a dreadful week Friday, closed below 10,000 for the first time since Feb. 22.

The blue-chip index posted a weekly loss of 3.37 percent to close at 9,910.72 while the tech dominated Nasdaq plunged 7.40 percent to 1,663.89 and the Standard and Poor's 500 slipped 4.34 percent to 1,076.32.

Larry Wachtel of Prudential Securities said that for the broad market, "this was the worst week since September of last year," and said that investors remain unconvinced about a recovery for corporate earnings.

"It is no idle coincidence that the past two weeks of decline has accompanied the two big weeks of first quarter earnings," Wachtel said.

"Not that the surprises have been so fast and furious. Rather that corporations are unable to identify a true uptick in the order flow. It's easy enough to beat reduced earnings expectations. It's another thing to identify when the good times will roll."

Jeffrey Sarrett of Marblehead Asset Management said traders are "trying to get valuation back in line" with market realities, but that the indexes remain "in the trading range of the last two or three months."

"The main thing that everyone is talking about is the outlook for corporate earnings—will they soon rise fast enough to support higher stock prices or will stocks have to decline to get in line with lowered earnings prospects?" said Alfred Goldman of AG Edwards.

"No one knows until earnings are released and thus only in hindsight. However, the really critical question is the mood of investors."

Goldman said the markets would eventually rally back in line with the US economic recovery.

"I think we could have another month of this backing and filling, up a little down a little, but we will do better because earnings will do better," he said.

"We look for most of the rest of this year to be subject to unpredictable events but basically have a modest upside bias."

Investors shrugged off Friday's stronger-than-expected report showing a 5.8 percent pace of growth for the US economy in the first quarter, as analysts questioned whether the pace can be maintained. A later report showing slipping consumer sentiment caused stocks to slip back.

"We think the recovery is clearly underway," said Prudential's Dick Rippe.

"Our guess is that it will slow down in the second quarter, because we don't think some of the demand gains will be quite as strong, and you won't get as much of a pop out of inventories. The notion that the economy is totally stalling out here is too extreme. It will be considerably slower, but the expansion is underway."

Among active shares over the past week, AOL Time Warner slumped 10.56 percent for the week to $18.72, JDS Uniphase fell 17.34 percent to 4.53 and Walt Disney declined 3.41 percent to $24.10.

The worst losses were suffered by WorldCom, down 45.32 percent to 3.27 and Tyco, down 33.42 percent to 19.90.

Amazon.com bucked the trend with a gain of 16.38 percent to 16.91 after its narrower than expected quarterly loss.

The bond market improved, as the yield on the 10-year Treasury bond fell to 5.052 percent from 5.188 percent a week earlier and on the 30-year bond to 5.584 percent from 5.682 percent. Bond yields and prices move in opposite directions. *AFP*

PEOPLE wait in line to enter banks in Buenos, Aires, Friday. In recent days, the economy has nearly ground to a halt in Argentina as banks remained closed this week while the government worked to prevent a collapse of the banking system. AP

World Cup gives needed economic boost to Japan

LONDON—South Korea and Japan, the joint hosts of the World Cup finals, believe their huge expenditure on the tournament will pay dividends in the future for both their soccer and economic prospects.

South Korea's commerce minister, Shin Kook-hwanhis, told Reuters on Friday he expected the country to earn $9 billion in extra production, create 350,000 new jobs and attract 340,000 tourists as a result of co-hosting the tournament.

But he said the true value of the investment would be in presenting the country as a new commercial hub for Asia. The country also gained from its hosting of the 1988 Seoul Olympics.

"We will invite chief executives from multinational companies to promote direct investment into Korea and to develop Korea as the hub of Asia's economy, education, culture and entertainment," he said.

However, while the world prepares to have a close look at Korea, the country has not yet entirely immersed itself in football fever. It emerged on Friday that around 200,000 tickets remain unsold for games in the country.

Most would go on sale via the Internet from May 1, organizers said.

By contrast, Japanese tournament director Junji Ogura said that there had been almost 17 million applications in the various rounds of ticket sales for games in Japan and that, apart from a few corporate packages, most were sold.

Like the Koreans, Japan sees the main benefit of hosting the event as its long-term legacy.

Japanese tournament director Junji Ogura said the estimated $4.5 billion spent on stadia, transport, hotels and other facilities since 1996 was an investment in the future.

"We realized when we were bidding for the World Cup that there was a lack of first-class stadia and sports facilities in Japan," Ogura said. *Reuters*

Merrill Lynch steps up efforts to check analysts

NEW YORK—Merrill Lynch chair David Komansky, in an apology to shareholders, said Friday his firm will redouble enforcement of ethics policies and take action against anyone who violates them.

Komansky's remarks followed news that the New York state attorney general's office and the US Securities and Exchange commission launched formal investigations into Wall Street analysts and their potential conflicts of interests.

"We will redouble our enforcement of existing policies, and take strong actions against anyone who violates them," Komansky said in a statement to Merrill Lynch shareholders amid charges that the brokerage publicly promoted some stocks in an effort to win investment banking contracts, while privately trashing them.

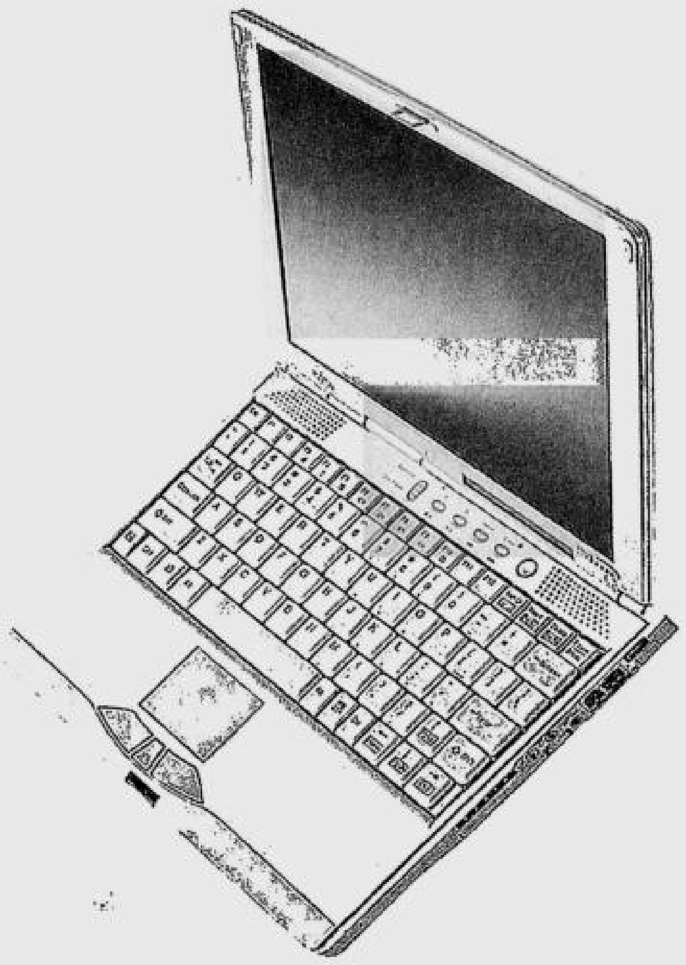
Komansky said certain e-mails detailing possible unethical actions by Merrill Lynch analysts "are very distressing and disappointing to us."

"They fall far short of our professional standards and some are inconsistent with our policies. We regret that and we further regret that the perception of our research integrity has clearly been affected," Komansky said.

"We have failed to live up to the high standards that are our tradition, and I want to take this opportunity to publicly apologize to our clients, our shareholders and our employees." *AFP*

THE POSSIBILITIES ARE INFINITE FUJITSU

Slimline. Modularity. Style.



LIFEBOOK
Made in Japan. World Class.

LIFEBOOK B-2548
- Mobile Intel® Pentium® III processor 600MHz featuring Intel® SpeedStep™ technology (Ultra Low Voltage) • 256MB SDRAM • 20GB HDD
- 10.4" XGA TFT (Touch Screen) • V.90 modem & 10/100Mbps LAN • Bluetooth™ PCMCIA Option • Ext. FDD (USB Type) & Port Replicator
- Microsoft® Windows® Me • Weighs approx. 1.4kg

LIFEBOOK S-4572
- Mobile Intel® Pentium® III processor 750MHz featuring Intel® SpeedStep™ technology • 128MB SDRAM • 30GB HDD • 12.1" XGA TFT
- V.90 modem & 10/100Mbps LAN • Bluetooth™ PCMCIA Option • Mobile Slot supports (optional): Digital Camera, 2nd battery, PC card
- Combo Drive (DVD & CD-R/RW) • Microsoft® Windows® Me • Weighs approx. 1.7kg (with an optional weight saver)

LIFEBOOK C-7631
- Mobile Intel® Pentium® III processor 1GHz featuring Intel® SpeedStep™ technology • 256MB SDRAM • 20GB HDD • 15" XGA TFT
- 8MB VRAM • V.90 modem & 10/100Mbps LAN • Bluetooth™ PCMCIA Option • DVD drive • FDD • Microsoft® Windows® XP Home

LIFEBOOK E-6666
- Mobile Intel® Pentium® III processor 1.2GHz - M supporting Enhanced Intel® SpeedStep™ technology • 512MB SDRAM • 30GB HDD
- 14.1" Super XGA+ TFT • 16MB VRAM • V.90 modem & 10/100Mbps LAN • Bluetooth™ PCMCIA Option • Combo Drive (DVD & CD-R/RW)
- Battery life: Approx. 3.5 hrs.* • Security Panel (for security lock and application launch) • Microsoft® Windows® XP Home
- Weighs approx. 2.65kg (with an optional weight saver)

Fujitsu PCs use genuine Windows® Operating Systems
www.microsoft.com/piracy/howtotell

** Actual battery life may vary depending on use, configuration and system load.*

Fujitsu Philippines, Inc. Tel: 8948557 E-mail: fujitsupc@fujitsu.com.ph Website: www.fujitsu.com.ph

For P, & B series contact:
AXIS GLOBAL TECHNOLOGIES, INC. Tel: 7243340 loc. 139 Fax: 7243353
E-mail: sales@axisglobal.com Website: www.axisglobal.com

For C series contact:
AXIS COMPUTER, INC. Tel: 6379991-98 Fax: 6354445

For P, S & E series contact:
AMERICAN TECHNOLOGIES, INC. Tel: 7230601-10 Fax: 7237951
E-mail: inquire@ati.com.ph Website: www.ati.com.ph

intel inside pentium® III

Intel, the Intel Inside Logo, Pentium and Intel SpeedStep are trademarks or registered trademarks of Intel Corporation or its subsidiaries in the United States and other countries.
Microsoft and Windows are either registered trademarks or trademarks of Microsoft Corporation in the United States and/or other countries.
Bluetooth is a trademark owned by its proprietor and used by Fujitsu under license.

INFOTECH

Editor Leo Magno

I WANT MY MTV.COM

MTV loses battle for Web name

SINGAPORE—Viacom International Inc., which operates Music Television (MTV) Networks, has lost a claim to the "MTV" domain name filed against a Taiwanese company, according to Singapore's dispute mediation center.

The Singapore Domain Name Dispute Resolution Service, which handles Internet domain disputes, said the name "MTV" as used by the Taiwanese firm Elitist Technologies Co. Ltd. was generic as an abbreviation for music videos.

The disputed Chinese-language website—mtv.com.sg—offers free e-mail services and serves as an Internet portal for supplying Chinese entertainment products and services. The website has a disclaimer in English saying "this site is not affiliated with Viacom MTV Networks, MTVN."

Viacom had said the Taiwanese company had used the domain name in "bad faith" and argued Viacom had exclusive rights to the MTV trademark. The respondent rejected the exclusivity claims, arguing the acronym MTV was generic as there is no direct translation in the Chinese language.

The decision said that "upon careful consideration of the arguments of both parties, the administrative panel finds that the complainant is unable to prove it could clearly and unequivocally assert exclusive rights to the use of the word MTV in broadcasting and entertainment products and services."

The ruling's author, Daniel Seng, said "there is evidence to suggest that the word 'MTV' is descriptive of the broadcasting and entertainment goods and services to which both the complainant and the respondent have applied to mark."

Seng said MTV is "generic as it has entered the local Chinese language as an abbreviation for music videos," according to the ruling published on www.disputemanager.com.sg—the dispute resolution service's website.

It was the first case heard by the body which was set up early this year. Its rulings can be challenged in Singapore courts. **AFP**

Internet commerce group to launch e-gov't awards

By Joey G. Alarilla

AIMING to spur the e-commerce efforts of Philippine government agencies, the Philippine Internet Commerce Society (PICS) has disclosed plans to set up an e-government award-giving body.

"We want to give due importance to government agencies which have adopted e-commerce as a tool in delivering government services to the public. The e-government awards will be a token of appreciation for their zeal and hard work," Mary Anne D. Tolentino, AVP for Internet Banking of the Bank of the Philippine Islands, said in a press statement.

Tolentino is the incoming president of PICS. The announcement of the group's plans to launch the e-government awards coincided with the induction of the new set of PICS officers on April 26, at the Peninsula Manila.

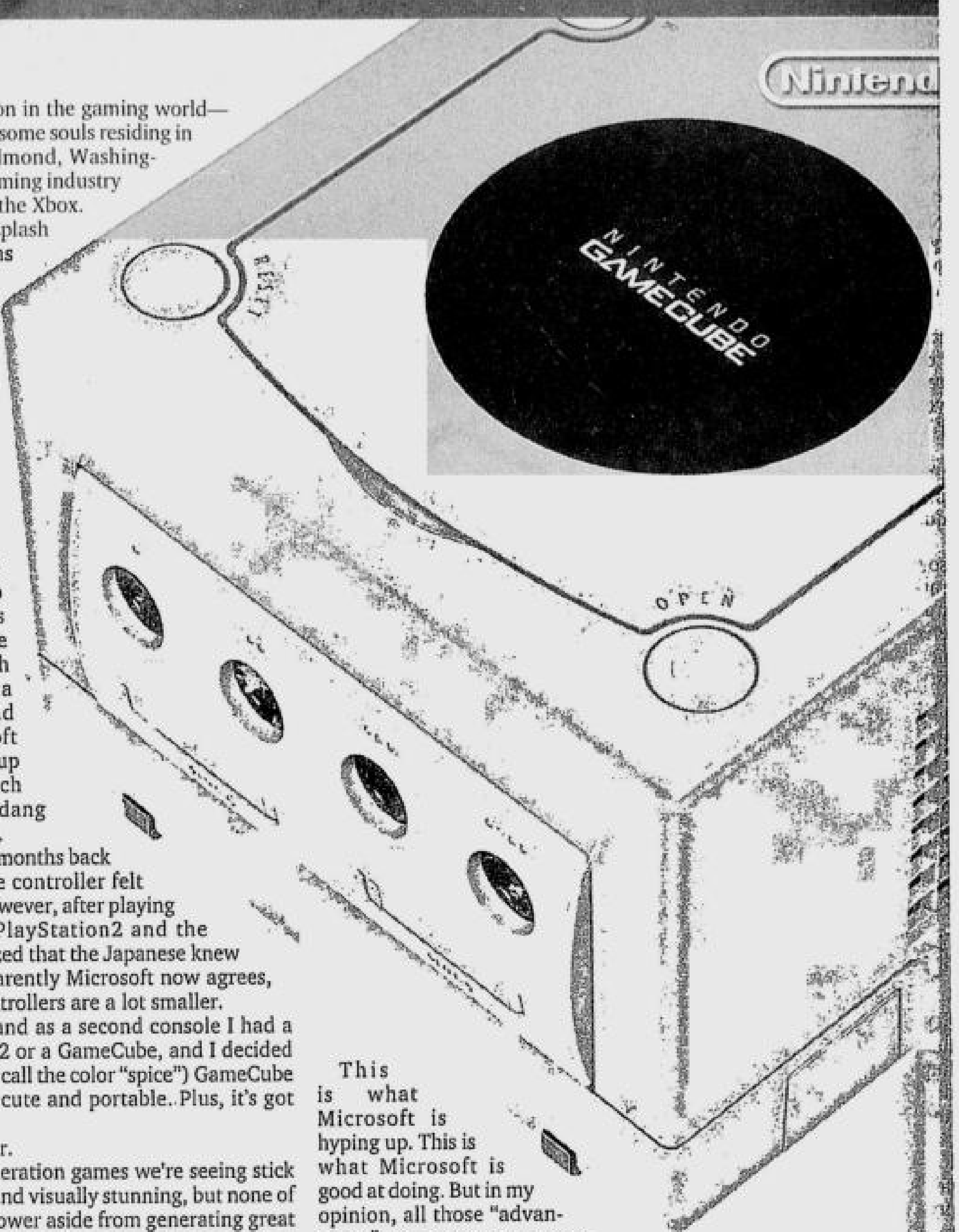
Dubbed the Philippine E-Government Awards, it will recognize government institutions that have adopted e-commerce and complied with the deadline set by the E-commerce Act.

Under Republic Act No. 8792 or the Philippine E-Commerce Act of 2000, all government agencies must be ready for e-commerce by June 30, 2002. PICS had lobbied for the passage of the E-Commerce Bill, which was signed into law on June 14, 2000 during the Estrada administration.

INTERNET/ B19

We got GameCube

By Leo Magno



CONTRARY to popular opinion in the gaming world—with the possible exception of some souls residing in the Microsoft campus in Redmond, Washington—the life of the console gaming industry does not begin and end with the Xbox.

Granted, the Xbox made a splash Nov. 15 last year when it was launched in the United States, but that splash turned into a loud thud when Microsoft dove into the Japanese swimming pool on Feb. 22 this year. The Xbox wasn't received by the Japanese as well as it was in the United States, Japan being the birthplace of gaming pioneers such as Sony, Nintendo and Sega. Recently, Microsoft even had to resize their controllers to suit the shorter fingers of us Asians, as opposed to the original controllers which were designed more with a Caucasian's hands in mind (never mind what Microsoft says about endless focus group discussions, market research and usability testing—the dang controller is simply too big!).

In fairness, I did say a few months back when I got an Xbox that the controller felt comfortable in my hands. However, after playing more games in the Sony PlayStation2 and the Nintendo GameCube, I realized that the Japanese knew what they were doing. Apparently Microsoft now agrees, since the new gray Xbox controllers are a lot smaller.

I already have an Xbox, and as a second console I had a choice between getting a PS2 or a GameCube, and I decided to buy a yellow-orange (they call the color "spice") GameCube instead. Why? It's so damn cute and portable.. Plus, it's got unique games.

Let me explain this further.

On the Xbox, the first generation games we're seeing stick to eye candy. They're fancy and visually stunning, but none of them maximize the Xbox's power aside from generating great graphics. Wait till you see second-generation titles such as "Project Ego" and you'd start appreciating the Xbox further.

The PS2 has the same problem. We're still waiting for next-generation games on this platform, and this becomes a lot more obvious when you compare the Xbox version of titles like "Onimusha" and "Silent Hill 2" with those which originally came out on the PS2. Of course the Xbox versions would look a bit better, but these are essentially "ported" versions with some visual enhancements and little or no gameplay improvement. Still, graphics-wise, the PS2 and GameCube are at par with the Xbox, based on the current crop of games we have. Little or no difference in terms of polygonal display and texturing capabilities can be seen from the current games that are available on the three platforms, despite the much-ballyhooed advantage of the Xbox graphics-wise. Next-generation games, however, are a different story. But for me, visual enhancement does not justify the Xbox's raw power. If you're into graphics, the advantage here is on the court of the Xbox since the PS2 versions, despite being only a few months old, all of a sudden became "older" versions because of a few, and often inconsequential, enhancements on the Xbox port. Consider, too, that the PS2 was the first of the three 128-bit consoles to be released, hence it is also the oldest. Many gamers out there believe the PS2 is already an aging system, and life for Sony would only continue with the PS3 which is not expected until 2004.

This is what Microsoft is hyping up. This is what Microsoft is good at doing. But in my opinion, all those "advantages" are mere gravy compared to what the next-generation Xbox titles will offer.

Enter the GameCube. Why choose a GameCube over a PlayStation2? The PS2 obviously offers better value for money since it can play pirated copies which sell for only P300, or a mere 10 percent of the price of an original. Imagine, for the price of one original PS2 game, you can now get 10 titles! And to think that I've only got 12 titles for the Xbox, and I had to stop buying more because Congress (a.k.a. my wife) did not approve my proposed budget allocation (a.k.a. pork barrel for gaming).

But seriously, I did not go for the PS2 precisely because pirated games abound in this platform. I believe in the value of the intellectual property of game makers, and respect their right to be financially acknowledged for having created the games that we enjoy at home. In other words, I do not like the PS2 because it has become a platform for pirates.

Having said that, excuse me for a moment while I go barf. *(Blechhkk! Uwak! Ugluk-Lugburz!)*

Whew. What a relief.

Now that hypocrisy is out of my system, let me restate that and say that the main reason I chose the GameCube over the PS2 can be summed up in two words: Shigeru Miyamoto. For those who don't know Miyamoto, shame on you and go stand

WE/ B18

Costs, additional training seen hampering SAN rollout in RP

By Joel D. Pinaroc

INVESTING millions of pesos and providing additional training and maintenance for an information technology (IT) team to handle storage area networks or SANs are seen as the main reasons why Philippine companies shy away from setting up their own storage network systems.

According to IT vendor Hewlett-Packard, while the need of companies for a SAN infrastructure has become important, Philippine companies are holding back because a SAN would entail a company to spend on SAN-related products (software and hardware) as well as invest on training or look for personnel specifically trained in this relatively new concept.

A SAN infrastructure is basically a collection of storage devices interconnected to a network. These "fast, specialized networks" may include multiple hard disks connected either in close proximity or via remote connections in several locations to powerful computers or data servers, which in turn disseminates the data contained in these storage networks.

A SAN is seen as an important part of large companies since these specialized networks are designed to handle huge amounts of data, like those typically found in multinational companies and some government agencies. Most large Philippine companies and government agencies are still using mainframes to store and manage data.

"Costs and additional training for a company's existing tech team sometimes discourage companies from having their own SANs," said Hespy Lisapaly, product marketing manager at HP Asia Pacific.

Lisapaly said in a country such as the Philippines, the issue of costs, becomes even bigger in light of the slowdown in IT affecting a majority of companies around the globe.

He said however, that the Philippines is not alone in Asia as top tier countries in the region are also encountering problems in their implementation of SANs.

He noted that while companies in a country such as Singapore may not have cost constraints, the need to find SAN-trained personnel becomes a problem, since the technology is relatively new.

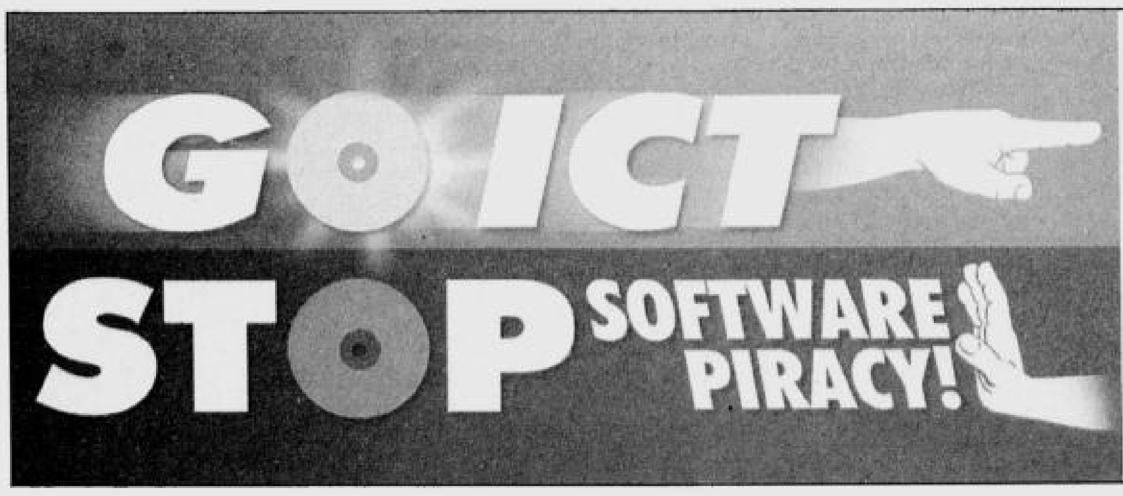
Lisapaly said the challenge for IT companies offering SAN products and storage solutions is how to enhance an existing SAN system package at the lowest cost.

For HP, a company known primarily for its printer and server products, the answer could be a network appliance which will maximize the efficiency of existing SAN systems without increasing the investment from companies.

HP recently launched its StorageApps sv3000 appliance, a new product that company executives claim allows companies to manage their storage networks "virtually."

"We believe that we have the right product to provide Philippine companies their SAN requirements without having to invest so much," said Anthony Lim, business development marketing manager at HP Singapore.

Lim said HP's new appliance is not proprietary as it will also work with competing storage products from other storage solutions providers.



2 days
before raids begin!
Business Software Alliance
www.bsa.org
Anti-piracy hotlines:
811-5897 (Metro Manila)
or 1-800-1-888-8787
(outside Metro Manila)

Introducing the Palm™ Wireless office. No strings attached.

palm™ palm-asia.com

NEW m130 Handheld

Palm™ Bluetooth™ Card

NEW m515 Handheld

CONNECT. COMMUNICATE. COLLABORATE. WIRELESSLY.

Join the Most Important Mobile Solutions Event of the Year!

Date: May 2, 2002 (Thursday)
Venue: Grand Ballroom
Hotel Inter-Continental Manila
Time: 10:00am-5:30pm

The Palm Mobile Solutions Event
Mobilize your Enterprise.

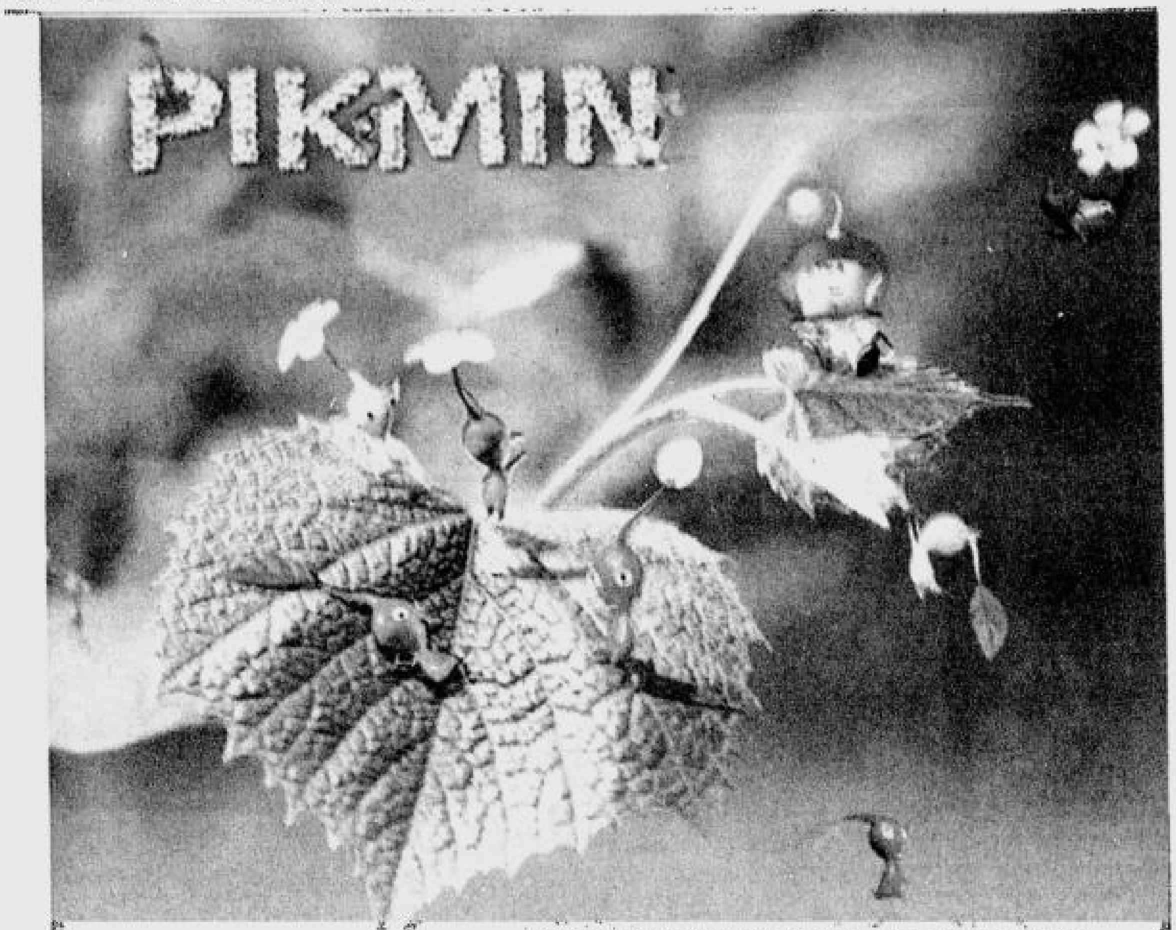
As enterprises come to recognise handheld computing as a key competitive differentiator, and the trend toward enterprise deployment of handhelds accelerates, Palm, Inc. and Microwarehouse, Inc. will be holding a Palm Mobile Solutions Event at the Grand Ballroom of the Hotel Inter-Continental Manila on May 2, 2002. The event will feature seminar presentations on a wide range of handheld solutions and a Solutions Exhibit where attendees can explore Palm-based productivity solutions and interact with providers of handheld and wireless computing solutions.

Palm Mobile Solutions Event Registration
Attendance is FREE. Pre-registration required.

Pre-registration for the Palm Mobile Solutions Event is now open.
CALL 637-0474 to 85 or EMAIL hope@microwarehouse.com.ph or FAX this Registration Form to 638-3720/638-6790

Name ______ Designation ______
Company ______ Address ______
Tel ______ Fax ______ Email ______

Colleague Name ______ Designation ______
Tel ______ Address ______



"PIKMIN" is a surprisingly addictive and deceptively simple game on the Nintendo GameCube. It's turning out to be one of the console's biggest-selling titles.

We got GameCube . . .

From page B17

in the corner. While you're at it, get that dunce cap off Erap's head and put it on. Miyamoto is the creator of Nintendo's Mario and is generally acknowledged as the industry's game-design god. And when god talks, the industry listens.

In other words, it's not about piracy. I still believe that, within the next 12 months, pirated Xbox games will be available. In which case I won't have a problem since I also have an Xbox. But Nintendo games, using proprietary 1.5-Gb mini-DVD technology, has a lesser chance of being pirated. So, while I'm feeding my pirate-lust on one end by purchasing pirated Xbox games, I'm satisfying my anti-piracy tendency on the other by buying original GameCube games. I know it sounds schizophrenic but after watching "A Beautiful Mind," I know I'd be in good company.

In the end, I would rather give my money spent on original games to Nintendo than to Microsoft. I will stop my investment on games on the Xbox platform and buy only the really good ones (like the upcoming "Bruce Lee," "Morrowind" and "Project Ego") or, in the future, even cheaper, non-original ones which sources say should be ready by year's end. Then I will invest more instead on the Cube while Microsoft solves its problems.

One of those problems is the exit of Seamus Blackley, co-creator of the Xbox. Last week, Blackley left Microsoft to join a Seattle-based gaming company. Blackley was the last remaining member of the original team which created the Xbox. With a big budget, big salaries and tons of marketing might, why on Earth would the original team leave Microsoft? Does this have anything to do with Microsoft's poor Xbox sales and the recent Xbox price slash? In other words, things are messy at the Xbox front, so cutting down my investment on the platform seems a good move at the moment.

Going back to Miyamoto, I believe Nintendo's got a strong line-up of original, creative and intelligent games. Most of the stuff we see nowadays are mind-numbing, moronic shoot-em-ups, hack-and-slash and painfully linear games. I want to see more cerebral games which offer things beyond clearing levels and solving stupid, inconsequential puzzles and bosses which are there not because they make the game more interesting, but merely to offer token challenge.

The GameCube has some new stuff flowing out of it, first of which is "Pikmin" by Miyamoto himself. This game looks like one of those typical cute, kid-stuff Nintendo games but don't be fooled. Pikmin is deceptively simple, but behind it is some wicked artificial intelligence structure that turns it into a role-playing and real-time strategy game at the same time. Pikmin is really hard to describe and categorize; you have to play it to appreciate it. I was amazed by the AI of "Oddworld: Munch's Oddyssey" on the Xbox and still consider it the best Xbox title so far (and not Halo), but Pikmin blows both Abe and Munch out of the water.

This goes to show that Nintendo is not just for kids. I just played "Biohazard," the Japanese version of "Resident Evil," on the GameCube and man was it awesome. "Eternal Darkness," another mature bloodfest game is coming out on the Cube, echoing Nintendo's statement that kids all the way to blood-seeking adults can play it.

In contrast, the Xbox is positioned at the 20-and-above market, those who can buy consoles on their own without having to ask their parents to do so. This makes mature titles more prevalent on the Xbox, with some teen ratings here and there. Even "The Simpsons: Road Rage" is obviously not for kids. Who would

WE/ B19

The basics

THE GAMECUBE, formerly codenamed "Dolphin," is Nintendo's next-generation, 128-bit gaming console which competes with Microsoft's Xbox and Sony's PlayStation2.

It has a 485-MHz IBM PowerPC Gekko processor, compared with the 300-MHz Emotion Engine of the PS2 and the 700-MHz Intel Pentium III of the Xbox. It has 43 Mb of memory while the PS2 has 32 Mb and 64 Mb for the Xbox. Still, the polygonal display capabilities of the three platforms are not that far apart (for the current crop of games available, at least), despite the much-ballyhooed advantage of the Xbox graphics-wise.

The GameCube is a lot smaller and lighter than the PS2 and the Xbox, and is only 4.5 inches high by 5.9 wide by 6.3 deep. It uses a 3-inch minidisk which holds 1.5 Gb of game data. It's even got a nifty handle which makes it easy to carry from your house to your neighbor or to your office or a friend's house if your parents kick you out of the house for game addiction.

The Cube is Nintendo's first game console to access game data from a disc rather than a cartridge. Despite its size, the Cube churns out game data fast because the disc and the IBM processor work together at an awesome speed, making load times hardly noticeable. IBM claims its 485-MHz PowerPC chip has the same performance of a 700-MHz Pentium III because of its copper technology. The result is less heat and power consumption but the same performance for the GameCube.

Unlike the Xbox which has a hard disk drive, the GameCube and the PlayStation2 store game information (saved games) on a memory card. One advantage is that the console becomes smaller, lighter and less likely to break down (hard disks can be scratched). You can also carry your memory card with you and load your saved game on a friend's console. One disadvantage is that, especially when you get used to saving games on the Xbox's hard drive, you have to buy more memory cards as you save more games.

The design

THE CUBE is built for gaming, and Nintendo knows how to make 'em. This company has been around for more than 20 years, and it's been producing nothing but games.

The Cube is well-designed functionally and aesthetically. GameCubes come in three colors: indigo (violet), jet (black) and spice (orange-yellow). The spice one is really cool. It's got a handle (the first console to have one) to make it easier to carry, is light and compact. It's the type of console you can bring from one place to another, unlike a PS2 or an Xbox which becomes more of a fixture underneath the TV.

It doesn't have a front-loading drive like the PS2 and the Xbox. These drives are electronically operated by a motor, meaning you need power to the unit before you can open it. Moreover, front-loading drives are more prone to mechanical failure. In contrast, the GameCube loads mini-optical discs on top with a simple push of a button, much like audio CD players. No mechanical and electrical motors required.

On top, you have buttons on three of the four Cube corners. One is the eject button, the other is the power button and the other is the reset button. That's it. Plain and simple. Up front you have four controller ports like the Xbox and two memory card ports.

Powerpoint charts using Excel data

By Jerry Liao

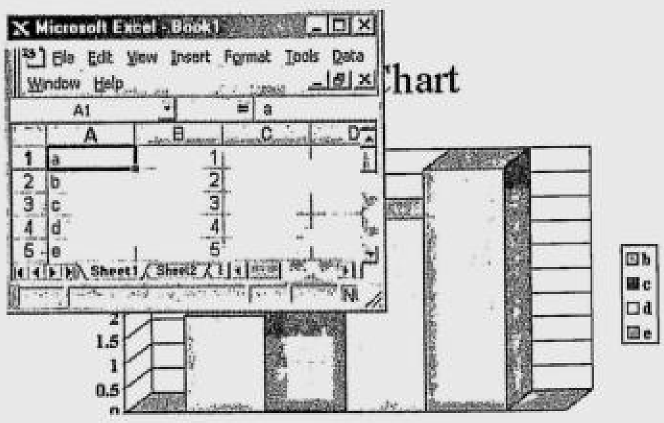
ONE of Excel's strengths is its ability to create graphs or charts easily. But for presentations, did you know that you can automatically create charts on Powerpoint using Excel data sheets? Here's how:

POWERTIPS

(1) Open a Powerpoint session.

(2) Create a new slide using the slide layout with chart (second row, fourth layout).

(3) Open a new or existing Excel worksheet.



(4) Type your data then select it or highlight the cells to be plotted then copy the cells.

(5) Go back to Powerpoint.

(6)Double-click on the chart area, the Microsoft Graph application will be displayed.

(7) Right-click your mouse within the MS Graph application and choose "Clear Contents."

(8)Right-click your mouse again then choose "Paste."

(9) Your chart will now be displayed in Powerpoint.

For more tips, visit http://www.brainshare.com.ph. We would like to invite our readers to join The Powertips Group. Simply register online at www.brainshare.com.ph/register.htm and receive free tips via e-mail. For your comments, questions and suggestions, send e-mail to infochat@mozcom.com.

Internet commerce group to launch . . .

From page B17

Tolentino said PICS will take an even more active role this year in promoting e-commerce development in the country, with the adoption of annual projects and special undertakings.

While saying that the group recognizes the ongoing crisis in the dotcom sector, Tolentino cited the strength of the local wireless industry and outsourcing projects, particularly for information technology services.

She said that the new thrusts that PICS will adopt would "make it better attuned" to existing IT conditions in the country. With the organization's restructuring, PICS now includes committees for membership, special projects, Web, wireless and outsourcing.

The theme for the PICS induction this year was "IT for Poverty Alleviation." The keynote speaker was Makati Business Club executive director Guillermo Luz.

Apart from Tolentino, the new set of PICS officers are Tedgie Herbosa, CEO of b2bpricenow.com (first vice president); Matthew Yngson, CEO of Iskul.org (second VP); Victor L. Magdaraog, VP of SGV-DDI (treasurer) and Ronald F. Jabal, CEO of Event One (corporate secretary).

We got GameCube . . .

From page B18

want their kids to play a game which has Homer cutting off people on the road and giving them wrong ideas about road courtesy?

I am not saying one console is better than the other, especially since I have the two big ones. I'm just saying that each has its own strengths, and that no single console will lord it over the other two because of the games they offer. In this light, I believe Nintendo has a slight advantage.

Why?

First, it makes great games. Nintendo has been a pure gaming company right from the start with the Game and Watch (1980) and the Family Computer (1983). In other words, it knows what it's doing. In contrast, Microsoft and Sony are two huge companies with other interests. Plus the fact that Miyamoto is driving Nintendo.

Second, Sony and Nintendo of Japan are ganging up on Microsoft of the United States. We're seeing game-sharing between the two, making titles available to both PS2 and GameCube but not on the Xbox. SquareSoft, a company 40-percent owned by Sony and the developer of Final Fantasy, is even rumored to be developing its popular game for the GameBoy and the GameCube. Sega, another Japanese game company, is also rolling out new titles for the Cube. In other words, in the future, chances are GameCube owners will be playing PS2 games and vice versa, but not on the Xbox. Call it Japanese Patriotism if you want. Or the Ninja Conspiracy. Or the Yakuza Fraternity. Or the Brotherhood of the A-Bomb Baby Boomers. Whatever.

Third, the Xbox is on shaky ground at the moment. Its original design team is gone, its leader has resigned, it's not being accepted in Japan, it's not meeting sales targets, it started slashing prices, customers are complaining about disc scratches and pirates are closing in on it. With all of this happening, it would be interesting to see if Microsoft Philippines will continue its plan to locally launch the Xbox in June or wait for next year until things settle down. If I were Microsoft Philippines I'd wait and see, with a keen eye on whether or not pirated Xbox games will start coming out in Greenhills within the year (hint, hint, Mark and Mae).

So stick around for more GameCube (and Xbox) updates, with the first reviews of Biohazard (Resident Evil) and Pikmin for the GameCube coming soon.

For more about the GameCube, read the sidebars to this story, okay?

Buying your first GameCube

GAMECUBES are sold in most shopping malls, electronic shops and computer stores in Manila. They sell from between P12,000 to P15,000. Data Blitz in Makati sells it for P11,995. In the United States it retails for $199, $216 including taxes.

The package comes with one console, one controller and one AC/DC adapter (power cord). It does not come with an AV cable (to connect to your TV), so make sure that's part of the package. Chances are they'll give you a Nintendo 64 AV cable which works fine with the Cube.

You also have to get a memory card which sells from P1,100 to P1,400. And, since this is a Japanese device, get ready to fork up another P200 for a transformer. The Cube accepts 100-volt juice in Japan, but a 110-volt transformer will work well (although 100 volts is recommended). A 50-watt transformer would suffice since the Cube works at 39 watts, but hardware stores will try to sell you a more expensive 100-watt transformer which is unnecessary.

Games range from P2,500 to P3,700, depending on which blood-sucking game store you stumble upon. For starters, I suggest you get "Pikmin" or "Star Wars: Rogue Leader" for one-player games. Another controller will set you back from P1,800 to P2,400, again, depending on the blood-sucker you go to. By June, a wireless controller will be introduced.

And so, to get started, the cheapest you can get a complete GameCube package for would be P15,800. One console, one controller, one memory card, one transformer, one game, one player.

INQ7.net goes interactive this summer with online special

ARE you hot? Then heat up things online by joining the Boys and Babes of Summer contest at www.inq7.net/specialfeatures/summer2002/boysbabes/.

This summer, INQ7.net readers can show the whole world just how hot they are in this fun online competition while getting the chance to win cool prizes.

The Boys and Babes of Summer contest is part of INQ7.net's Red-Hot Summer online special at www.inq7.net/specialfeatures/summer2002/. INQ7 Interactive Inc. is the joint online news delivery company of the Philippine Daily Inquirer Inc. and GMA Network Inc.

To become a candidate, just complete the online registration form and then e-mail your hottest photos. Readers will determine the winners by voting online for the Boy and Babe of Summer of their choice. The winning Boy and Babe will each receive a free one-month membership at The Spa at the RCBC Plaza.

To qualify for the one-month membership, the candidates must be Filipinos and Filipinas, aged 18 and above, who are residing in the Philippines. Filipino and Filipina candidates who are outside the country can still join in the fun and be hailed as the Boy and Babe of Summer. The winning Boy and Babe of Summer will also be featured in a story that will be published online at INQ7.net.

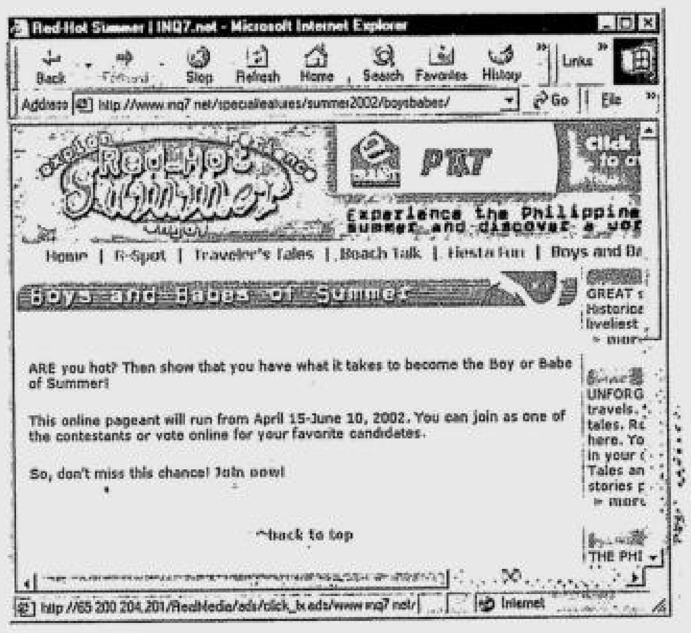
Readers will also get the chance to win in a raffle just by registering and voting for their favorite candidates. For more details, visit the Red-Hot Summer site.

As part of the interactive fun this summer, INQ7.net is also offering readers the chance to be published online in the Traveler's Tales section at www.inq7.net/specialfeatures/summer2002/traveltales/.

Readers can share stories about their unforgettable summer adventures or write their own guide to traveling to the different vacation spots the Philippines has to offer. INQ7.net will pick the best submissions and publish the stories online for a global audience to appreciate.

And to help readers plan the perfect summer vacation that they deserve, Red-Hot Summer has a section on great travel packages from BPI Travel Madness 2002 at www.inq7.net/ads/bpicard/.

So spend summer with some fun under the sun—and red-hot interactive fun.

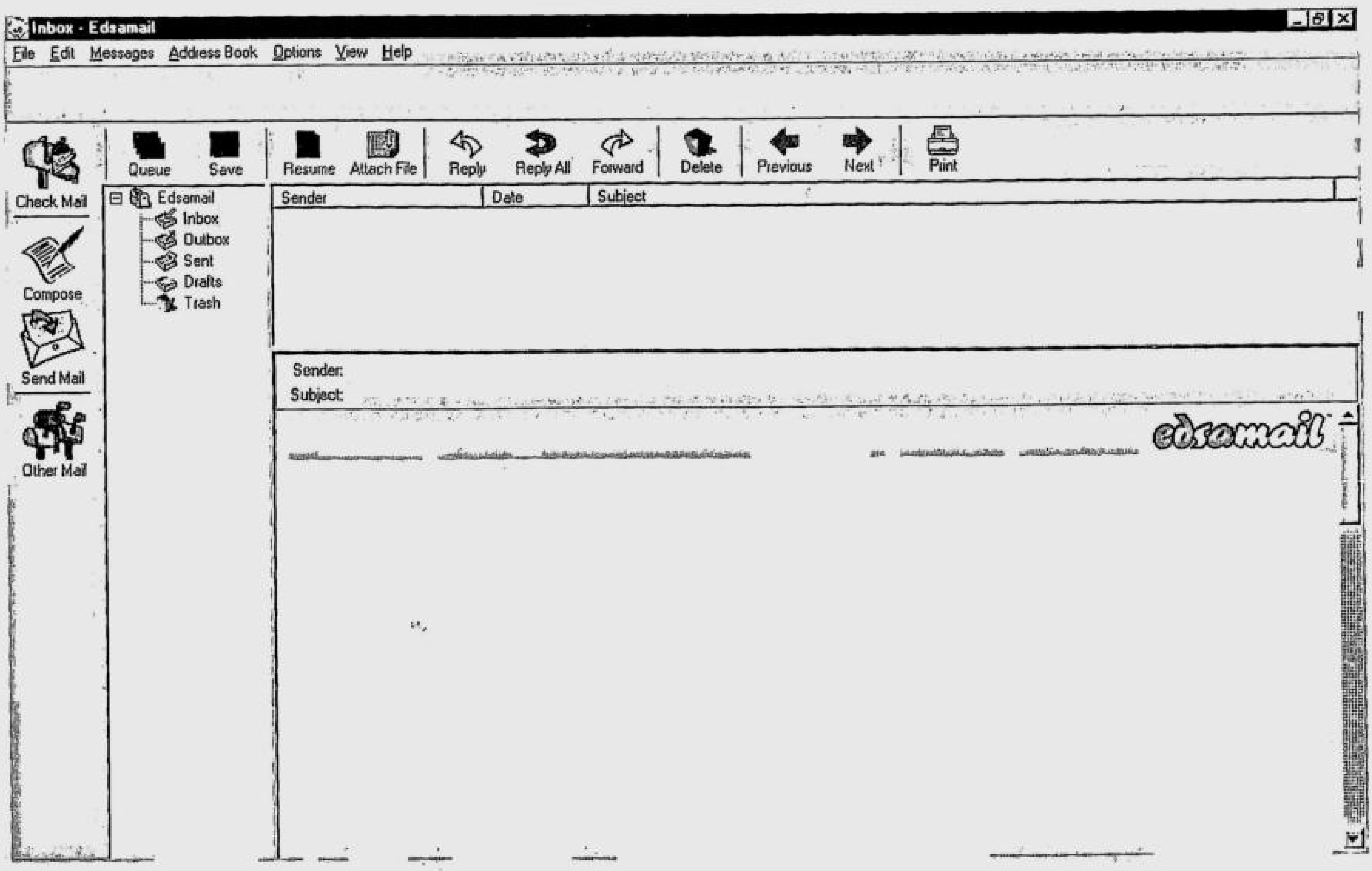

Red-Hot Summer | INQ7.net - Microsoft Internet Explorer
Back
Forward
Stop
Refresh
Home
Search
Favorites
History
Links
Address
http://www.inq7.net/specialfeatures/summer2002/boysbabes/
Go
Red-Hot Summer
PKT
Experience the Philippine summer and discover a
Home | R-Spot | Traveler's Tales | Beach Talk | Fiesta Fun | Boys and Ba
Boys and Babes of Summer
GREAT
Historica
liveliest
UNFORG
travels.
tales.
here.
in your
Tales an
stories
THE PHI
http://65.200.204.201/RedMedia/ads/click_b.ads/www.inq7.net/
Internet

ARE you hot? Then show that you have what it takes to become the Boy or Babe of Summer!

This online pageant will run from April 15-June 10, 2002. You can join as one of the contestants or vote online for your favorite candidates.

So, don't miss this chance! Join now!

^back to top



Edsamail 1.3 subscribers: pay by May 4 or who knows what you'll miss.

All Edsamail 1.3 subscribers can keep their accounts by getting the Basic Mail Package of P365.00* for twelve months. Pay direct at the Edsamail Office, 7f Orient Square Building, Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City. Over the counter payments are also accepted at all Equitable PCI Bank Branches and selected Bayad Centers in Metro Manila and Metro Cebu. Or pay via credit card (JCB, MasterCard or Visa) by emailing creditcardform@edsamail.com.ph to get a credit card form. Please indicate your Order Number when paying. Call 910-5555, text 0917-816-1440 or email help@edsamail.com.ph for inquiries. www.edsamail.com.ph

Please disregard this notice if payment has been made.

*One-time limited offer only. Vat included.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8972535 (Direct) ☎ 8978008 (Trunk) Fax 8974808
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG., AURORA BLVD., QUEZON CITY
☎ 912-9008-11 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6872354 ☎ 6872366 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5280183 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8424503 ☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS

The Widest Reaching Classifieds

MONDAY, APRIL 29, 2002

RATES
P230 per column centimeter
P65 per line
(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)

DEADLINES
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Mondays to Saturdays
12:00 noon
Day before publication
Sundays
12:00 noon
every Thursday

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

MEDICAL

PHYSICIAN/SURGEON

'RAPID Tx VD-STD
SCARS Ex SWEAT ALLERGIES
15 Annapolis, Greenhills
Call 7276124 to 25 9am-7pm

VDSTD Matrinco Bldg. 2178 P. Tamo 8175071

PERSONAL

ARCHITECTS

Fast-Track Design-Build
Interior • Retail • Renov.
Call Tel.# 726-8124

CONSTRUCTION/ DESIGN

House Renovation 417-8012

COSMETOLOGY

MAY 25 WORKSHOP
FACIAL SKINCARE
8956031 L2011 OR 8971832

HEALTH/FITNESS

DON'T LIKE YOUR MIRROR REFLECTION? 2477469

MASSAGE

'02 Hot Stuff 3233269

•889-0170•
MALE ENCOUNTER

ADAMS Tower (M) 8325228

AKHIN THAI MASGE #09174116004 Mla&Cebu 24hrs.

BLUE PALM
T-713-6553

JAMES MALE 24HRS SERVICE 8511883 ; 0916-4404374

MALE 16 PALANAN 7320659

MASSAGE 4727243

Pamper Yourself w/the Golden Touch M/F Call Jay & Carla 373-8755

Pretty, European Girl 0919-2525922

UNWIND 752-0437

VIP-M/F-24H-SVC 8312373 Romy

REFLEXOLOGY

Edgar 09168294488 7503640 HHS

Edward 7289285 09183257044

MALE SPA 562 BANAUE 7411426

REFLEX CARLA 716-4898

Wizard Massage 4213197

TUTORIAL LESSONS

• LIGHT-5268216 OR 70 •

QUICK MATH
For All Levels Also Sciences, Piano, Voice, Guitar-Swim
5308671;5264462 loc.20

HOUSEHOLD

FLOOR SANDING

JL Flr Sand serv 4102824

HOUSEHOLD JOBS

IDEAL MAIDS YAYA 4934583

Avble MAID fr. Prov. 1st time Mla. SMCL 4450513 / 2914524

BEST MAID 411-1593/741-9082

Direct-Maid-Yaya-Cook 7570579

Good-Maid-Yaya-Driver 7570579

Help Agency 532-1947 • 532-8376

Maid Yaya Intl Cook 7572089

MIDWIFE A'MAID 870-8799

RELIABLE HONEST MAIDS
W/ NBI 4213253

TRUSTED QUALITY MAIDS W/NBI & BI 4213820

LIPAT BAHAY

L-BAHAY 9206784 4540520

A-1 Lipat Bahay 4313974

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

HOUSEHOLD

LIPAT BAHAY

•CHEAP LBAHAY 9260424•

L-BAHAY 8383742/5447599

LBAHAY 7113540

L-BAHAY 712-16-92

Lipat Bahay • 824-1227•

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

COMML/RESDL

MAKATI

Makati Fort"B" nr C-5 400m^2 8230670

MANILA

LA-250m^2 FA-345m^2 Gov's Forbes gud investmnt 6341212

PARANAQUE

Paranaque w/bodega 750sqm nr FTI&SM 4KM fr Makati 8230670

PROVINCIAL

Cavite 514m^2 back of Metrobank Naic 8230670

Lipa City 1080 sqm along Nat'l Rd Sale/Rent 8230670

Laguna 635m^2 near boundary MuntingLupa/SanPedro 8230670

TAGAYTAY CHOICE LOTS NEAR CANOSSA HOUSE OF SPIRITUALTY CALL OR TEXT 0919-8314883; 0919-5840359

HOUSE & LOT

MANILA

SN ANDRES MLA
NR SSHIWAY Bnew
Twnhse/4stry/4br/3tb/grge/maid
P3.135M up 8903461 loc 34

MARIKINA

Grnlnd bnew 3br 2M 9487112

PARANAQUE

Very nice Bung w/ Grden 300m^2 3BR 2TB Baywindow 2 CG, H20 24 Hr. Sec. 8239255

QUEZON CITY

212LA 105FA 4BR 2TB 111 Ilocos Sur St. Bago Bantay Q.C. 09178302368

LA480 Mayon St. QC Comml Neg SMH • 929-8376

LA280m^2 Apo St. Sta Mesa Hgt Old Hse • 929-8376

L258 New Mla Rollin Hill 2Sty 5br w/ t&b 929-8376

LA471 Congressional Ave. Comml QC • 929-8376

Hse&Lot Bungalow A-220sqm @ P3M • 534-6610 • Jojo

LOYOLA GRAND VILLAS CHOICE LOTS with VIEW 929-1832 • 426-5650

Pre-Sell Celebrity Place 3BR 3Stry w/ 2 Car 928-1469

QC SKTUNA 300m^2 H&L 5323936

Quirino Hway H/L Good for Whse • 534-6610 • Jojo

Rush! Fully Furnished Near SM North 926-4889

HOUSE & LOT FOR SALE
WEST TRIANGLE
QUEZON CITY PRIME AREA
LOT AREA : 630 SQ.M.
FLR. AREA : 1,200 SQ.M.
3-STOREYS PLUS ATTIC
FULLY FURNISHED, 8 BEDRMS
12 T&B PLUS MAIDS QUARTERS
& DRIVERS QUARTERS
WITH 6 CAR GARAGE
W/ SPECIAL AMENITIES:
- OFFICE / LIBRARY
- GYM, SAUNA, JACUZZI, STEAM BATH
- MULTI-PURPOSE GAZEBO
- ELEVATOR
CALL 3723206
3719702 TO 04
4108367 TO 69

PASIG

Valle Verde I P18M Nego 721-2804 • 0917-5407682

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

New Home Series
Teresa Park

DP P340,000
LAS PIÑAS Nr. SM
WOODRIDGE
CHE ABELLAR 806-0731
CITYWIDE 806-2281

HOUSE & LOT

PASIG

Greenwoods Exec Village P3.5M LA-204 FA-265 4BR 4TB 2car grge + Fam Rm + Mds Rm + Utility Rm + 3ac + veranda Direct buyer only Cualo / Grace 371-1438 / 412-3999 / 0917-5260272

RIZAL

Nr Antipolo Church LA 346 FA 150 Call 634-1212

Safe of Flood and Faultline
NR ORTIGAS EXT
RIDGMONT Exec Cainta New strong FRENCH 3BR 2c'port Bung nr ent gate Lot:172m^2 2.2M 9488240

PROVINCIAL

RUSH LAGUNA BELAIR H&L CHEAP NEWLY RENOV RFO (049)-5410459 OWNER LEAV.

OTHER AREAS

•LAGUNA BEL-AIR 3•
LA120m^2 up 2-3BR w/prkg
Joann 912-5775

LOT

MANILA

Oroquieta 400m^2 7271417 Noemi

PASIG

•Greenwoods P6,000/sqm Call Tina 638-6505 / 721-2804

LOT Only 273m^2 Greenwoods Subd Call or Text 0917-4792501

QUEZON CITY

LA1000 Fairview QC V-Lot 0919-4024987 • 929-8376

LA4000 Baler St QC V-Lot 0919-4024987 • 929-8376

LA406 Short Horn Proj. 8 Comml Lot V.Lot • 929-8376

Corinthian 1200 Fcing Park P40K/sm 723-2391

★ FERNDALE QC ★
Ayala Res Lots New Phase
204-290m^2 @ P9,500-P12,160
Pay 20%(In 2 months)
Bal 5 yrs. Mo. Interest
HSES & LOTS - 3BR 3TB
150 - 300 FA 200-300 LA @
P6M P13M 2 yrs - 10 yrs
Term w/ Complete Facilities
9319117 ★ 9319160 T.Banez

★GREENMEADOWS★ EAST 800 900m^2 DBO 412-1025

RIZAL

VALLEYVIEW EXEC Village ANTIPOLO 2 Lots 120sqm @ P3500/sqm neg. Cool Place O'lookng Tel 9137943 Mir

SAN JUAN

Adition Hils 1530 Gud Loc 21K/sm Terms 723-2391

N Ghils 1000 35K 723-2391

PROVINCIAL

Bul Malolos 965m^2 5323936

Canyon Woods Lot EZ Pymt Scheme • 534-6610 • Jojo

CONDO/TWNHSE/ APT

MANILA

MALATE STUD 1,2,3R+ P1.7M (neg)w /New 0917-4052764 / 0918-9132395

NEAR ST. SCHO
BNew Twnhse/4stry/3br/3tb/grge
P3.123M up 8903461 loc 34

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

New Home Series
Krauss Park

P15,590 Per Mo.
MOLINO Nr. ZAPOTE
PROPERTIES, INC.
R.F. MAGCANLAS 873-1940
FAST STAR 825-1568

HOUSE & LOT

MANILA

RUSH Condo 58m^2 5237829

MANDALUYONG

Lee Gardens Condo Studio 3BR EZ Pymt 534-6610 Jojo

PASIG

Ortigas Condo / Alexandra Emerald / Chateau 641-1092

Palmdale Condo Pasig As Low As 9T/mo. 641-1092

T-hse 4Sale LA-88m^2 FA-280m^2 3br 4tb w/2Prkng 634-1212

VV Mansions FA132 2BR 3TB 2Pkg FF 5M 0918-9039172

QUEZON CITY

158 sqm 3br 3tb P4M St. Ignatius Call 634-1212

•50Rt 70 move in • flex term 0% nr Ateneo UP St Lukes Movers 4210734 4213223 09194076057Agent Welcome

Nr ABS-CBN 2.5M
1BR 1TB 52.96m^2 10%DP
10-15 years to pay RFO
Call 926-4070/72 ; 924-1402

PANAY AVE. FA115m^2
2BR 2TB with Maids Room, Car Park, Fully Furnished Call 374-2572 • 0917-4032151

XAVIERVILLE Townhouse LA55m^2 FA100m^2 P2.3M Direct Only 911-5745

RIZAL

★KENTWD Twhse Mariposa QC 150m^2 3BR 5.6M 4121825

SAN JUAN

4 Sale 1.6M 26sqm 6412863

PROVINCIAL

MARBLE VILLAS, Bulacan. 5 yrs-pay, 3BR, 242-1521

OTHER AREAS

Brand New 2-Units Town Hse Goodwill Homes 1 640-8448 R-nel

Cainta Country Homes P1.8M 20%DP 5/30 yrs.0917-8958021

CLUB SHARE & MEMBERSHIP

Club Filipino Share for Sale Call Lisset at 6372044

FANTASY WORLD SHARE P105T Only 633-7601/03

FACTORY/WHSE

WAREHOUSES FOR SALE OR LEASE
- ONE STOREY CONCRETE
- FLR. AREAS-1,008 & 707SQ.M.
- THREE PHASE ELECTRICITY BY MERALCO
- WITH DIRECT DIAL TELEPHONE LINE
- ABUNDANT WATER SUPPLY
- BULACAN AGROINDUSTRIAL SUBD.,MALOLOS - CALUMPIT BOUNDARY

For inquiries, pls. call :
Lexber Realty Mgt. & Mktg.
3742584; 3723206
3719702 TO 04
410-8367 TO 69

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

APARTMENT

MAKATI

Apt. 4 Rent TEL 8954370

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

APARTMENT

MAKATI

Yague La Paz •895-5699•

PASIG

2 Bedroom Up & Down
Strong H20 Newly Painted Call Julius/Cora • 628-1580

QUEZON CITY

•P5.5T Studio T-9267419

Proj.8 1-Brdm 927-2640

HOUSE

ALABANG

18T 0918-9242622/8265861

PARANAQUE

MGV Pque 2sty 5BR4TB w/ phone CP09195546815 Didi

MGV Pque 2sty 5BR4TB w/ phone CP09195546815 Didi

QUEZON CITY

102 Mariposa Loop P35T Tel 7262191 & 7277196

Dplx 2BR w/grg #5 Amsterdam Capitol Park Homes Subd behind Ever Commonwealth 9312790

Hse 4 Rent w/ 4BR , 3TB Dinein-Sala 2Kitchen w/ Garage / Sari Store w/2nd Flr. Off Space Melody 0919-6788182 / 04233221 70

Project 3 Noemi 727-1417

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

3br Ayala Twin Towers F. Furn New Renov. Call Lulu 8877595 Ofc or 0917-8116391

SSH nr CASH & CARRY 1-3BR,56-115sqm 10-18T/mo P&L2 CONDO 551-2586

MANILA

NEW CONDO PACO w/grge TEL 5610197

PASIG

P Chateau 2br Flur P30K AIC 3br Ul P35K 723-2391

PARC Royale AllBnew FF 3BR 60T 4121825 / 09177914366

QUEZON CITY

★KENTWD Twhse Mariposa QC 150m^2 3BR 5.6M 4121825

FOR LEASE

LA903m^2 Mindanao Ave. QC VLot @ 45T • 929-8376

BEDSPACE

nr DLSU w/food P6.5T 8992148

LOAN & MORTGAGE

2% w/o TAKING CAR 3670169

BUSINESS RENTAL

Ideal for Internet Shop Parlor Resto. Call 634-1212

MAKATI nr BUENDIA
Plamo 38/85/62/185m^2 1st class 8903461 loc 34 or 19 ofc hrs

MARKET AVE PASIG CITY 2nd Flr-385 sqm; 3rd Flr-500sqm Contact Tel 628-0622

MED PLZ ORTIGAS 40-74m^2 Sale/Rent 4121825/09177914366

OFF Avenida Nr Raon 735-0516

SSH nr CASH & CARRY 45-92sqm Gr-3/F 10-25T/mo P&L 2 CONDO 551-2586

Store Spaces
P1500/mo. Valenzuela
Bulacan Wet & Dry Area
Call 926-4070/72 ; 924-1402

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING
FEMALE BOOKKEEPER
Accounting Graduate
Bring bio-data w/ picture
KOA & ASSOCIATES
G. Masangkay Street,
Sta. Cruz, Manila
Tel. No. 255-8655

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

FORD

LYNX GHIA 2000 450T Look 4 Mrs. See T920-8744

HONDA

93 CIVIC ESI A/T #5246711 Ask for Espiridion Borja

•HONDA VTEC '96 MODEL•
Color: Light Blue Manual
50,474 Mileage Hardly Used
Good as New Very Handsome
Call 8086275 or 09178486245
Ask for Rommel or Dang

MITSUBISHI

'92 Mits Lancer Silver Excellent Cond. All Power Automatic P135T (049)-5124507

TOYOTA

83 Cresida Maroon P105T 633-3873 0918-9169320 Ana

TOWNACE A/T 238T 9267433

HEAVY EQUIPMENT/ TRANSPORT

Sale loader Pison Genset 4x4 Kubota 4x4Loader F-Lift 3672802

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CARS FOR RENT

L3•Cars• 9273453 4538295

Starex MB100 Coaster Bus Call 631-3496 • 637-7396

CAR VANS 410-0495

Vans Coaster Bus 913-9123

Cars/Vans Cheap 8203894

IT/HIACE 9136710/4333682

JB CARS
Promo Rates #536-2048 526-6288/806-1632

L300 T7411356

L300/Vans 578-8917(Roger)

MARIAN CARS BRIDAL VANS CSTER 8957247/8969956

Toyco Cars / Vans / Starex / Coaster / Rental 800-6505

WANTED TO BUY

BUYING USED CARS 8990215

CAR LOAN

1.5% FAST CAR LOAN 3677523/24

2% w/o Taking Car 8966633

2% w/o taking car 7262780

2% w/oTaking Car 7221021

2% w/oTaking Car 3732003

2% w/oTaking Car 3646928

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

FURNITURE

YAMAHA PIANOS
Grand & Upright T7213124

HOME APPLIANCE

Compo. Pioneer VS88 Mdl 640-8448

Used Ref & Freezers
3,000 each • Tel. 426-0433

PETS

DOG TRAINER 4528681

PHILIPPINE CARABAO CENTER
Department of Agriculture

April 23, 2002

INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY AND TO BID

The Philippine Carabao Center (PCC), an attached agency of the Department of Agriculture is inviting interested Filipino Contractors or firms with valid licenses issued by the Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) and classified as Category A or higher, to apply for prequalification and submit bids for the construction of its new Regional Centers in Mariano Marcos State University at Batac, Ilocos Norte, Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University at Rosario, La Union and West Visayas State University at La Paz, Iloilo City. Preference will be given to local Contractors.

Both License and Certificate must be unexpired before the prequalification, evaluation, after opening of bids and during the entire duration of the project.

The sequence of dates for carrying out this prequalification and bid shall be as follows:

1. Issuance of Pre-C Forms, upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P500.00, May 6 to 10, 2002 at the Office of the Executive Director. Incomplete applications shall not be accepted.
2. Deadline for the submission of duly accomplished prequalification statements is on May 7, 2002.
3. Notice of prequalified and predisqualified contractors will be issued not later than June 14, 2002. Only prequalified contractors shall be invited to submit proposals.
4. Issuance of Bid-Tender forms, Plans Specifications and Requirements Forms, June 17 to 21, 2002 at the Office of the Executive Director, upon payment of P1,500.00 which amount is non-refundable.
5. Pre-Bidding conference is scheduled at 10:00 A.M. on August 5, 2002 at the Office of the Executive Director, 5th Floor, DCIEC Building, NIA Compound, EDSA, Quezon City.
6. Submission of duly accomplished bid-tender and supplemental documents shall not be later than 10:00 A.M. on August 20, 2002, at the Office of the Executive Director, 5th Floor, DCIEC Building, NIA Compound, EDSA, Quezon City after which the opening of bids will be done immediately.

All particulars relative to the prequalification, bid bond, pre-bid conference, evaluation and award of contract shall be governed by the provisions of P.D. 1594 and its implementing rules and regulations as amended.

The Philippine Carabao Center reserves the right to reject any or all proposals or waive any defect or required formality therein and to award the project to the proponent whose proposal is most advantageous to the government.

(Sgd.) LIBERTADO C. CRUZ
Chairman
Prequalification, Bids & Awards Committee

(PDI--April 28, 29 & 30, 2002)

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY
GARMENT MERCHANDISER

Garment buying office located in Phil. Stock Exchange Centre, seeks merchandiser to handle buying and development for major US retailers and brands, including one of the hottest and fastest growing menswear labels in the United States.

Candidate must have at least 5 years minimum experience in the industry and have a knowledge of both woven & knits cut & sew tops and bottoms.

Qualified applicants should fax their resumés to Mrs. Luz Cruz
Tel. Nos. 636-5562 / 637-9232 Fax Nos. 941-0669 / 637-9232

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

PETS

Protect your lives and properties! Have your dogs trained by the:
PHIL. DOG SCHOOL
Trains dogs SCIENTIFICALLY.
OBEDIENCE - GUARDWORK
T-721-3736 / 0918-7193342

SPORTING GOODS

BILLIARDS P33/36/38T A1 Qlty B.New 8014495/8020566

WANTED TO BUY

BUYING ROLEX
others, High Price CASH CALL 09178142309/7269687

BUY/SELL EDUCATION PLAN G. LOPEZ •7137284•

Buy/Pawn Diamonds T834-2886

ANY ROLEX
Buy / Sell / Pawn / Repair
Tel# 804-0484 • 834-2886

WE BUY AT HIGH PRICE
ROLEX
5633742 5646593 09178473744

MISCELLANEOUS

IMPORTED LUMBER
Maple, Alder, Birch, Pine, Pinewood Const. Grade. Accept Indent Order to Include Cherry, Oak, Veneers
FAIRVANC TRADING
4713332•4715173

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MALE

FURN PAINTER CARPENTER 4762 Solchaga Mkti 8957596

GAY JR STYLIST T6.5-T7 Ask Aga 631-9949

MALE/FEMALE

Urgent Ofc Staff 18-45y/o w/w /oexp Start ASAP 9134470 Vina

*Ofc Staff 18-45y/o w/w/oexp Start asap 9134470 Teresa

BSEED, BSE, COL. PROF Tel. # 7246756; 9265049

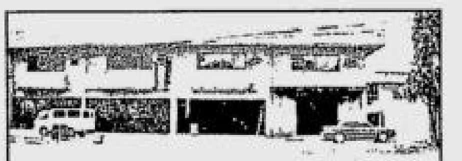
CARE GIVER T5280722

★ADMN STAFF 9134470 Hershey★

•HAIRDRESSER•
CALL 895-6031 L2011

★OFC STAFF 9134470 LUCY★

OFC STAFF 9134470 WENDEL



Comm'l with Warehouse
FOR SALE OR LEASE
Near Carmona Exit
1,884 sq.m. Call 366-1904 up to 05

Save 10-30%
in Gasoline or Diesel Fuel

Use POWERTRON Advance Formulation
MAXITRON
XO FUEL ADDITIVE
- IMPROVES COMBUSTION EFFICIENCY
- INCREASES SPEED & POWER
- SMOOTHENS RUNNING CONDITION
- FRICTION MINIMIZER

Pending IPO/Trademark Application #4-2002-0003289
AVAILABLE AT : 1881 Evangelista St., Brgy. Pio del Pilar Makati City
Tel. Nos. : 757-3122 / 750-3054 / 729-8382

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MALE/FEMALE

★WANTED OFFICE STAFF★ Contact EUGENE 9134470

Urgent Need Sales Lady/ Salesman • Call 882-3810

FEMALE

Exec. Secretary 453-0879/82

Pre-Elem Teacher • 655-0609

Senior Hairdresser
-At least 5 yrs. exp. as a senior hairdresser & make up artist w/a reputable salon
-25 to 35 yrs. old
-Apply @ HEAD ZONE SALON Acropolis Unit 2 E-Center Bldg. E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave. Libis, Quezon City
-Resume w/ 3 character references, including 1 from previous employer
-2x2 colored picture NBI /Police clearance
Tel 395-5093 up to 94 Look 4 BHECK

TEXTILE SECRETARY 22-28yrs old Col. Grad. w/exp. fluent in Eng&Chin 736 Juan Luna St. Divisoria 2429012-13

PUBLIC NOTICES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

BILLIARD BAR
with Internet Cafe
Imported Table, Complete Set Up, Fully Airconditioning, with Regular Customer, Very Good Location, Near Robinson Manila • Call 0917-4032151

Earn Extra Big Income and Have a Healthy Family!! Call/Text • 0919-3517700

Earn From Home w/ Travel 295-2107 • 0917-8135609

PUBLIC NOTICES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

•Travel N Earn From Home•
earn-and-travel.com
8531008 (0917)8101851

EARN FROM HOME W/TRAVEL 2477469 09192157588

Mall/Bazaar Spaces
633-9295/633-9662/638-9608

GREAT NEWS ! IF UR NOT EARNING OVER 200T/m @ UR PRSNT NETWRK BUS. LETS TALK NOW 8072359 RESH

Teens, Adults Wear 3738821

Travel & Earn From Home 02-6870963 / 0917-5319792

PERSONAL

PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH

Oh, St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God. I place in you all my interest and desires. Oh, St. Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession, and obtain for me from your divine son all spiritual blessings, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. So that, having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of fathers. Oh, St. Joseph, I never weary contemplating you, and Jesus asleep in your arms; I dare not approach while He reposes near your heart. Press Him in my name and kiss His fine head for me and ask Him to return the Kiss when I draw my dying breath. St. Joseph, Patron of departing souls - Pray for me.

This prayer was found in the fiftieth year of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. In 1505 it was sent from the Pope to Emperor Charles when he was going into battle. Whoever shall read this prayer or hear it or keep it about themselves, shall never die a sudden death, or be drowned, nor shall poison take effect on them; neither shall they fall into the hands of the enemy, or shall be burned in any fire or shall be overpowered in battle.

Say for nine mornings for anything you may desire. It has never been known to fail so be sure you really want what you ask.

Republic of the Philippines

BOARD OF INVESTMENTS

Industry & Investments Building
385 Gil J. Puyat Avenue
Makati City, Philippines

Fax No. (02) 8958322 Tel. Nos. (02) 8970682
(02) 8901322

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the application of COCO STREET FASHION CORPORATION with address at No. 11 Calle Rojo, B.C. Home Subdivision, Salinas Drive Extension, Lahug, Cebu City for registration with the Board of Investments under Book I of the Omnibus Investments Code of 1987, otherwise known as E O 226, as Amended, as New Export Producer of Fashion Jewelries and Accessories (such as but not limited to necklaces, bracelets, brooches, badges, pendants and other articles related to fashion) at a capacity of 900,000 pieces per year and with proposed plant site at (same as in above address) has been officially accepted on 25 April 2002 and is currently being processed.

Any person with valid objections to or pertinent comments on the above-mentioned application may file his/her objection in writing and under oath, with the BOI within one (1) week from the date of this publication.

(Sgd.) FRANCISCO C. CHAVEZ
OIC-Director
Project Evaluation and Registration Department

(PDI – Apr. 29, 2002)

TYT '2000 4-wheel drive
P1.4M Neg. T-3456781

Invite 2.8 million people to test drive your car.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS
The Widest Read Classifieds

The PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER enjoys the biggest circulation and readership among all the major broadsheets in the country. It has a dominant market share of over 55% according to the 2000 Asia Research Organization (ARO) Tri-Media Study.

Republic of the Philippines

DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM

Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City

LIST OF VACANT POSITIONS

at the Department of Agrarian Reform
(In compliance with RA 7041)

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT OFFICER V (Item No. 116*) SG 24 Masteral degree; 4 years in position involving management & supervision; 24 of training in management & supervision; Eligibility Career Service Professional Second Level Eligibility (PDMS)

MANAGEMENT & AUDIT ANALYST V (Item No. MAA-4-1) SG 24 Masteral Degree, 4 years in position/s involving management & supervision; 24 hours of training in mgmt. & supervision. Career Service Professional Second Level Eligibility (Management)

MANAGEMENT & AUDIT ANALYST IV (Item No. MAA4-1) SG 22 Bachelor's degree relevant to the job; 3 years of relevant experience; 16 hours of relevant training; Career Service Professional; Career Service Professional Second Level Eligibility; (Management)

ACCOUNTANT III (Item No. A3-12) SG 18 Bachelor's degree in Commerce/Business Administration major in Accounting; 2 years of relevant experience; 8 hours of relevant training; RA 1080 (Accounting Division)

MANAGEMENT & AUDIT ANALYST III (Item No. MAA-3) SG 18 Bachelor's degree relevant to the job; 2 years of relevant experience; 8 hours of relevant training; Career Service Professional Second Level Eligibility (Management)

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT OFFICER III (Item No. PDO 3-10) SG 18 Bachelor's degree relevant to the job; 2 years of relevant experience; 8 hours of relevant training; Career Service Professional Second Level Eligibility (PDMS)

INFORMATION OFFICER III (Item No. INFO 3-10) SG 18 Bachelor's degree; 2 years of relevant experience; 8 hours of relevant training; Career Service Professional Second Level Eligibility (PAS)

BUDGET OFFICER III (Item No. BUDO 3-1-98,99) SG 18 Bachelor's degree relevant to the job; 2 years relevant experience; 8 hours of relevant training; Career Service Professional Second Level Eligibility (Budget)

LEGAL OFFICER II (Item No. 189-3*) SG 17 Bachelor of Laws; Eligibility None required; Training None required; Career Service Professional Second Level Eligibility (BALA)

ACCOUNTANT II (Item No. A2) SG 15 Bachelor's degree in Commerce/Business Administration major in Accounting; 1 year of relevant experience; 4 hours of relevant training; RA 1080 (Accounting Division)

BUDGET OFFICER II (Item No. BUDO2) SG 15 Bachelor's degree relevant to the job; 1 year relevant experience; 4 hours relevant training; Career Service Professional Second Level Eligibility (Budget)

AGRARIAN REFORM PROGRAM OFFICER II (Item No. ARPO2-3, 12) SG 15 Bachelor's degree relevant to the job; 1 year of relevant experience; 4 hours of relevant training; Career Service Professional Second Level Eligibility (BLAD)

MANAGEMENT & AUDIT ANALYST II (Item No. MAA-2) SG 15 Bachelor's degree relevant to the job; 1 year relevant experience; 4 hours relevant training; Career Service Professional Second Level Eligibility (Management)

INFORMATION OFFICER II (Item No. 52*) SG 15 Bachelor's degree; 1 year relevant experience; 4 hours relevant training; Career Service Professional Second Level Eligibility (PAS)

LEGAL ASSISTANT II (Item No. 190-1*, 2*) SG 12 Bachelor's degree; Experience None required; Training None required; Career Service Professional Second level Eligibility (Legal Division)

ACCOUNTANT I (Item No. A1) SG 11 Bachelor's degree in Commerce/ Business Administration major in Accounting; Experience None required; Training None required; RA 1080 (Accounting Division)

MANAGEMENT & AUDIT ANALYST I (Item No. MAA-1, 203*) SG 11 Bachelor's degree relevant to the job, Experience None required; Training None required; Career Service Professional Second Level Eligibility (Management)

BUDGET OFFICER I (Item No. BUDO1-2, 3) SG 11 Bachelor's degree relevant to the job; Experience None required; Training None required; Career Service Professional Second Level Eligibility (Budget)

ECONOMIST I (Item No. 161-1*, 3*167-1*, 3*, 4*) SG 11 Bachelor's degree relevant to the job; Experience None required; Training None required; Eligibility Career Service Professional Second Level Eligibility (PSRS)

SUPPLY OFFICER I (Item No. SUO1-2) SG 10 Bachelor's degree; Experience None required; Training None required; Career Service Professional Second Level Eligibility (GSD)

MANAGEMENT & AUDIT ASSISTANT (Item No. 204-2*) SG 8 Completion of two years studies in college; 1 year relevant experience; 4 hours relevant training; Career Service Sub-Prof. First Level Eligibility (FMAO)

ARTIST ILLUSTRATOR II (Item No. 400*) SG 8 Completion of two years studies in college or High School Graduate with relevant vocational/trade course; 1 year relevant experience; 4 hours relevant training; Career Service Sub-Prof. (MC 11, s 96-Cat I) First Level Eligibility (PARC)

CLERK III (Item No. 75-3*) SG 6 Completion of two years studies in college; Experience None required; Training None required; Career Service Sub-Professional First Level Eligibility (DARAB)

CLERK II (Item No. CK2-99; CK2-5, CK 2-49) SG 4 Completion of two years studies in college; Experience None required; Training None required; Career Service Sub-Professional First Level Eligibility (PPLAO/Mgmt. Division)

CASH CLERK I (Item No. CHC1-2) SG 4 Completion of two years studies in college; Experience None required; Training None required; Career Service Sub-Professional First Level Eligibility (GSD)

UTILITY WORKER I (Item No. UTW1-12,43,54) SG 1 Must be able to read & write; Experience None required; Training None required; Eligibility None required (MC 11 s 96 Cat III) GSD

Republic of the Philippines

CITY OF PARAÑAQUE

Metro Manila

Office of the Treasurer

5-A

NOTICE OF DELINQUENCY IN THE PAYMENT OF REAL PROPERTY TAX

PURSUANT TO R.A. 7160, SECTION 254 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE 1991, HEREUNDER ARE THE REAL PROPERTY TAX DELINQUENTS:

NAME OF TAX DELINQUENTS	Tax Declaration Numbers	Date Upon Which The Tax Became Delinquent	AMOUNT
1) ALMENDRAS, CARIDAD C. DE Classification: Land Bgy. Sto. Niño TCT-S-69212	E-013-03836	1979-2001	27,565,063.58
2) GARCIA, NICANOR Classification: Land Bgy. San Valley TCT-298279 Land TCT-146235	E014-03356 E014-03416	2001 1985-2001	24,180,168.92
3) MANTRADE INDUSTRIAL INC. Classification: Land Bgy. Marcelo Green TCT-317406 TCT-299421 Land TCT-517407	E006-08400 E006-08408 E006-08409	1985-2001	8,950,610.00
4) MASANGKAY, TIMOTEA Classification: Land Bgy. Tambo Building	E015-01736 E004-00653	1979-2001 1979-2001	6,252,444.20 64,259.12
		Sub-Total	6,316,703.32
5) JOBIN AQUA MARIN.CORP. Classification: Land Bgy. Sto. Niño TCT-113619 Building	E013-01583 E013-01584	1987-2001 1988-2001	1,874,360.00 449,637.30
		Sub-Total	2,323,997.30
6) LUZON AGGREGATES INC. Classification: Land Bgy. Marcelo Green TCT-S-17821 Land TCT-S-23449	E006-03059 E006-03066	1998 - Nov. 2001 1998 - Nov. 2001	1,398,150.00
7) PLANTERS DEVELOPMENT BANK (TCT-105292) 7139 Classification: Land Commercial, San Dionisio (TCT-105291) 7135	E010-03995 E010-03994	1987 - 2001	1,210,620.48
8) JORGE B. VARGAS, INC. Classification: Land Bgy. Tambo TCT-136688, 136689 Land TCT-136886 Land TCT-13398 Land TCT-56792, 76793	E015-01344 E015-01346 E015-02012 E015-02019	1979 - 2001 1979 - 2001 1979 - 2001 1979 - 2001	904,490.72
9) MENDOZA, ADELAIDA R. Classification: Land TCT-1202166 (S-91995) Barangay BF	E001-05234	1985 - 1998 2000 - Nov. 2001	681,984.46

AT ANY TIME BEFORE THE DISTRAINT OF PERSONAL PROPERTY, PAYMENT OF THE TAX WITH SURCHARGES, INTERESTS AND PENALTIES MAY BE MADE. IN CASE OF FAILURE TO PAY THE BASIC REAL PROPERTY TAX OR ANY OTHER TAX LEVIED UNDER THE REAL PROPERTY TAXATION UPON THE EXPIRATION OF THE PERIODS AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 250 ON PAYMENT OF REAL PROPERTY TAXES IN INSTALLMENTS AS PROVIDED IN THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE, OR WHEN DUE, AS THE CASE MAY BE, SHALL SUBJECT THE TAXPAYER TO THE PAYMENT OF INTEREST OF THE RATE OF TWO (2%) PERCENT PER MONTH ON THE UNPAID AMOUNT OR A FRACTION THEREOF, UNTIL THE DELINQUENT TAX SHALL HAVE BEEN FULLY PAID: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT IN NO CASE SHALL THE TOTAL INTEREST ON THE UNPAID TAX OR PORTION THEREOF EXCEED THIRTY-SIX (36) MONTHS. FURTHER, AND UNLESS THE TAX, SURCHARGES AND PENALTIES ARE PAID BEFORE THE EXPIRATION OF THE YEAR FOR WHICH THE TAX IS DUE EXCEPT WHEN THE NOTICE OF THE ASSESSMENT OR SPECIAL LEVY IS CONTESTED ADMINISTRATIVELY OR JUDICIALLY PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 3, TITLE II, BOOK II OF THE CODE, THE DELINQUENT REAL PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION, AND THE TITLE TO THE PROPERTY WILL BE VESTED IN THE PURCHASES, SUBJECT, HOWEVER, TO THE RIGHT OF THE DELINQUENT OWNER OF THE PROPERTY OR ANY PERSON HAVING LEGAL INTEREST THEREIN TO REDEEM THE PROPERTY WITHIN ONE (1) YEAR FROM THE DATE OF SALE.

PERSONAL PROPERTY MAY BE DISTRAINED TO EFFECT PAYMENT, AND/OR LEVY UPON THE REAL PROPERTIES OF THE DELINQUENT TAXPAYER TO SATISFY THE DELINQUENCY.

(Sgd.) LIBERATO M. CARABEO
City Treasurer

(PDI – Apr. 22 & 29, 2002)

Opportunity knocks but once.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER JOB MARKET

Read it every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

OBITUARIES

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

INQUIRER OBITUARIES

• DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT • MESSAGE OF THANKS •
• DEATH ANNIVERSARY • REQUIEMS •

For the needs of your departed Loved Ones, the following establishments can help you.

ARLINGTON MEMORIAL CHAPEL
12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City;
Tels. 715-1025; 715-1031; 715-1027
ARLINGTON EAST THE GARDEN CHAPELS
C. Raymundo St. cor. Mercedes Ave., San Miguel Ave., Pasig City
Tels. 747-8599; 747-8609 • Telefax 641-1760
AUREA QUIOGUE FUNERAL HOMES
243 A.B. Fernandez Ave., Dagupan City, Pangasinan
Tels. (0785) 522-3451; 522-2128; (0917) 434-9976
CAPITOL MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
1305 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City;
Tel. 732-0309; 732-1085
CEBU ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
Cebu Branch: A.S. Fortuna Street, Banilad, Mandaue City, Cebu
Tels. 346-2543; 346-2601
COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Nivel Hills, Lahug, Cebu City;
Tels. 231-0721; 231-3192
COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Camus Ext. cor. J. Abad Santos, Davao City;
Tels. (082) 227-1201; 227-1258
DAYAO FUNERAL HOME
#2 Bayani St., Galas, Quezon City
Tels. 740-2683; 781-3705; 781-3688; 413-9400; 715-5594
DALLUAY MEMORIAL SERVICES
#42 Upper Kalaklan, Olongapo City
Tels. (047) 222-3605; (047) 811-1086;
(047) 222-4512; (047) 224-2014
DON BOSCO CHAPELS
Pasay Road, Makati City;
Tel. 894-5932 to 34
DULCE MEMORIAL SERVICES
Jose Abad Santos Ave. cor. Dinalupihan St., Manuguit, Manila
Tels. 712-5102; 741-5125; 741-5133; Fax No. 711-3064
FLORESCO FUNERAL HOME
219 Gen. Luna St., Concepcion, Malabon, Metro Manila
Tels. 2812963; 2813034; 2810522
FUNERARIA FILIPINAS
187 Real St., Zapote-Alabang, Las Pinas
Tels. 873-0507/873-0024
865 J.P. Rizal St., Poblacion, Makati City
Tels. 890-3556/899-8191
FUNERARIA PANGILINAN
Santo Entierro cor. P. Burgos St., Lourdes Sur, Angeles City
Tels. (045) 888-2959 ; (045) 322-5247
PAKET SANTIAGO MEMORIAL HOMES
13 V. Gomez St., San Roque, Marikina City
Tels. 646-1725; 646-1730
FUNERARIA ANGEL QUIOGUE
No. 57 Pasig Boulevard Extension, Pasig City
Tels. 641-7909; 641-1735
M. Almeda St., Pateros, Metro Manila
Tels. 642-3010; 633-3602
FUNERARIA TUASON
Poblacion, San Miguel, Bulacan 3011
Tels. (044) 764-0261; 678-0266; (0917) 895-0603
FUNERARIA SAMSON
145 Bayan Luma, Imus, Cavite
Tels. (046) 471-3375; 471-2675
GARDEN OF MEMORIES MEMORIAL PARK
Calsadang Bago, Pateros, Metro Manila
Tels. 642-6181 to 82

HOLY TRINITY MEMORIAL CHAPELS
Sucat, Parañaque City
Tels. 825-1296, 825-1291
LA FUNERARIA LAWRENCE BAQUIRAN
#27 Crisologo St., Vigan, Ilocos Sur
Tel. 722-2730; Cell (0917) 5680136; (0917) 5680145
Manila #23 Palo St., Project 2, Quezon City
Tel. 434-3258
LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
1501 C.M. Recto Ave. cor. T. Mapua, Manila
Tels. 711-6931 to 35; 732-4795
143 G. Araneta Ave. cor. Kaliraya St., Quezon City;
Tels. 749-3806 to 11; 712-3001; 743-6502 or 05
79 Naguilian Rd., Baguio City
Tel. (074) 443-3337; (074) 442-3117
LOYOLA MEMORIAL CHAPELS
EDSA cor. Bernardino St., Guadalupe, Makati City
Tel. 895-1011 to 19
LOYOLA MEMORIAL PARK CHAPELS & CREMATORY SERVICES
Loyola Memorial Park, A. Bonifacio Avenue, Tañong, Marikina City
Tel. Nos. 941-3196 to 98, 941-3576; Telefax 941-3577
MARIAN MEMORIAL CHAPELS
Marcos Hiway, Antipolo, Rizal
Tels. 645-1855; 682-0209; 682-0210
MT. SINAI MEMORIAL CHAPEL
Arellano St., Dagupan City
Tels. (075) 515-5960; 515-6529; 522-8783; (0919) 348-7131
NACIONAL MEMORIAL HOMES
264 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City;
Tels. 713-5231 to 35; 714-0867; 714-0868
POPULAR MEMORIAL CHAPELS, INC.
214 Rizal Ave., Sta. Cruz, Manila
Tel. No. 254-0867; 254-0839
ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
Ground Flr. Rolling Hills Chapel, 27th-Lacson St.,
Mandalagan, Bacolod City; Tel. 433-7132
RIZAL FUNERAL HOMES
438 Cementina St., Pasay City, Tels. 831-1204
Sucat Branch: 8187 Dr. A. Santos Ave., Sucat, Parañaque City
Tels. 826-1376; 826-9682; (0915) 712-1220
SANTUARIO DE SAN ANTONIO PARISH
Forbes Park, Makati City
Tel. Nos. 843-8838/30; Fax No. 843-9223
SANTUARIO DE SAN JOSE PARISH
East Greenhills, Mandaluyong City
Telefax 724-4139, 725-2044
ST. ALPHONSUS MARY DE LIGOURI PARISH
Magallanes Village, Makati City
Tels. 852-8228; 852-7284
ST. MARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL
16-15 G. Tuazon cor. Loreto St., Sampaloc, Manila
Tels. 749-3679; 781-1772
ST. PETER FUNERAL HOMES
296 Quezon Ave., Quezon City
Tels. 372-5084; 410-9286/87
VERONICA MEMORIAL HOMES
Official NBI Morgue 517-A Arnaiz St., Pasay City
Tels. 831-3797; 844-7846; 843-1601; 845-4836
WELINGTON FUNERAL SERVICES
1511 Gen. Luna St., Paco, Manila
Tels. 522-8846; 522-9438; 400-5394

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS: ❶ Copy of Death Certificate ❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS and bank-to-bank payments

In Loving Memory

on the First Death Anniversary of

VIRGINIA "Nini" SY GRAPILON

of San Jose, Occidental Mindoro &
Pawikan, Cabucgayan, Biliran

*who died in the Grace of our Lord
on April 29, 2001*

JAG, Rene, Raul and relatives
request friends to continue to
remember Nini in their prayers.

"From darkness let the light shine!"
Genesis 1:3

Our Dearly Beloved Father

Fiscal Lucio (Papang) Julgan Osit (Ret.)

1920 - 2002

Peacefully joined his Creator on April 26, 2002.

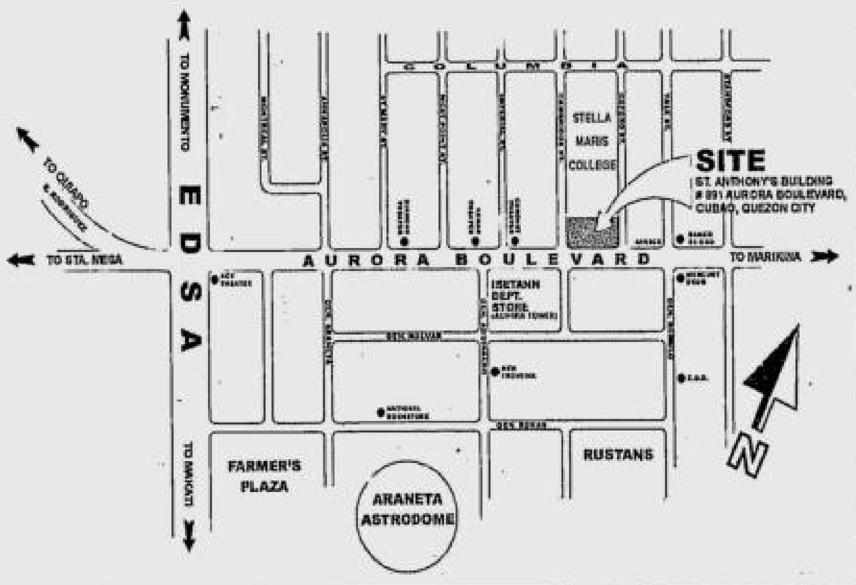
His beloved children and children-in-law **Jorge - Nitz, Linda - Col. Cesar Yulo, Josie, Hermie - Henk, Letty - Romie, Fred - Bessie,** and **Billy - Bebet**; grandchildren; great grandchildren; nieces; nephews; other relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Nacional Memorial Homes, 264 G. Araneta Ave., Q.C.

Interment will be on Wednesday, May 1, 2002 at the Himlayang Pilipino, T. Sora Ave., Q.C. after the 8:00 a.m. Mass.

INQUIRER CLASSIFIEDS

Aurora branch is now open to serve your Classified Ads requirements. For inquiries, please call **912-9008** to **11**.



FBDC trims workforce by half

By Doris C. Dumlao

FORT Bonifacio Development Corp., developer of the 150-hectare Global City, has laid off half of its workforce in the last two quarters, reducing the company's overhead expenses by 60 percent.

This initiative is in line with the streamlining efforts of its parent firm Metro Pacific Corp., which is undergoing a comprehensive corporate restructuring in light of its P18 billion in debts, MPC chief finance officer Jose Ma. Lim said in a press briefing Saturday.

Lim said he was expecting 50 percent of the group's creditors to approve the group's comprehensive debt restructuring program before MPC's annual stockholders' meeting on June 11.

"When it comes to savings, it's been extraordinary," MPC consultant David Nugent said referring to the streamlining program. "It hasn't been a slash-and-burn exercise. The goal was to create an organization that's very lean but very smart and very focused on core competencies. This means that people work a lot harder and for longer hours, and are flexible to demands."

The MPC group's streamlining program was implemented in two stages. The first stage was completed in the last quarter of 2001 and the second, in the first quarter of this year.

Apart from former MPC president Ricardo Pascua who quit his post, the organization lost one senior vice president and four or five vice presidents.

Lim said the biggest reduction was thus in the FBDC head office, which was likewise being used as the MPC headquarters. FBDC now has only 82 employees from the previous number of more than 160. Overall, the FBDC organization (including the various subsidiaries) now has only 911 employees. Lim said the changing times had prompted the group to beef up its marketing programs to sustain its cash flows.

BOI, Peza post big drop in Q1 investments

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

INVESTMENTS registered with the Board of Investments and Philippine Economic Zone Authority have slowed down drastically in the first quarter this year as the government's stepped-up investment promotion efforts fail to convince businessmen to put their money into the Philippines.

The BOI reported that registered investments plunged 82.5 percent to P4.71 billion from January to March this year from P26.88 billion a year ago. Peza investments likewise dropped 74 percent to P3.823 billion in the first three months this year from P14.564 billion.

At this pace, both agencies are in danger of failing to meet their full-year targets of P50 billion each.

The dismal investment inflows come on the heels of Malacañang's intensified campaign to restore investment confidence with a slew of investment missions and state visits since President Macapagal-Arroyo took over more than a year ago.

Government officials have blamed the global economic slowdown for the meager investments which was exacerbated by the lingering effects of the Sept. 11 attacks in the United States.

But businessmen said the government should address the escalating costs of doing business in the country—from utilities to transportation to wages—and a restive labor force which also contributed to the lean investment haul in the first quarter this year. These negative factors have further diminished investor interest in the country at a time when investors are moving out of Asean to go to China.

Countless Invoices.
Multiple Currencies.
Numerous Agents.
DHL WORLDWIDE EXPRESS

Importing Made Easy.

import express

Your passport to ultimate importing convenience.

DHL Import Express is the easy and speedy import delivery service that takes all the worries out of importing. Every time you import, simply use your unique Import Express account number and we'll take care of express delivering it.

Only the world leader in the air express industry can give you all these and more.

One Company Control - Deal with just one point of contact with DHL and be directly in control of your shipments 24 hours a day, all days of the year. Be on top of your costs even before you import with pre-agreed Import Express rates (excluding customs duties and taxes).

One Currency and One Invoice - Receive only one detailed invoice on one unique account number that's recognized worldwide, and pay in only one single currency.

One Global Company- Import with the only company that can give you the world. DHL Import Express is all you'll ever need.

Open your Import Express account now!

Call Our 24-hour Customer Service Hotline: (632) 811-7000

DHL WORLDWIDE EXPRESS

CALTEX Havoline Vortex CALTEX present

NISSAN MARATHON

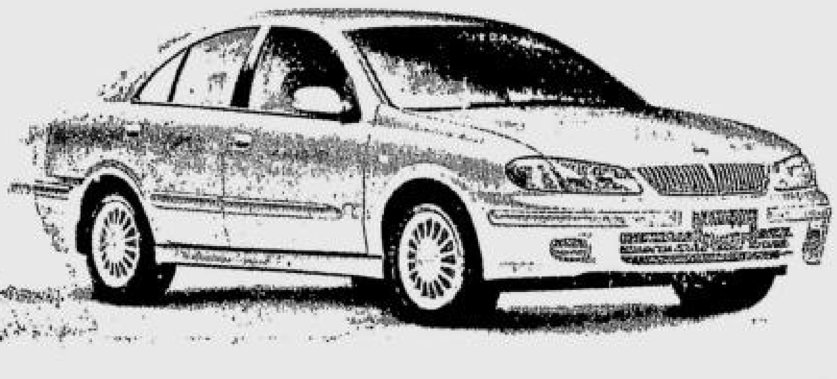
The 4th Pan-Philippine Run

25,794 kms in 24 days.

From North to South, East to West, the new Nissan Sentra Exalta GS Superio has it covered.

Quezon City ▸ Calauag ▸ Naga ▸ Sorsogon ▸ Samar ▸ Leyte ▸ Cebu ▸ Negros Oriental ▸ Negros Occidental ▸ Davao ▸ Ormoc ▸ Surigao ▸ Butuan ▸ Cagayan de Oro ▸ Davao del Norte ▸ Bukidnon ▸ Agusan del Sur ▸ La Union ▸ Pangasinan ▸ Nueva Ecija ▸ Nueva Vizcaya ▸ Isabela ▸ Cagayan ▸ Ilocos Norte

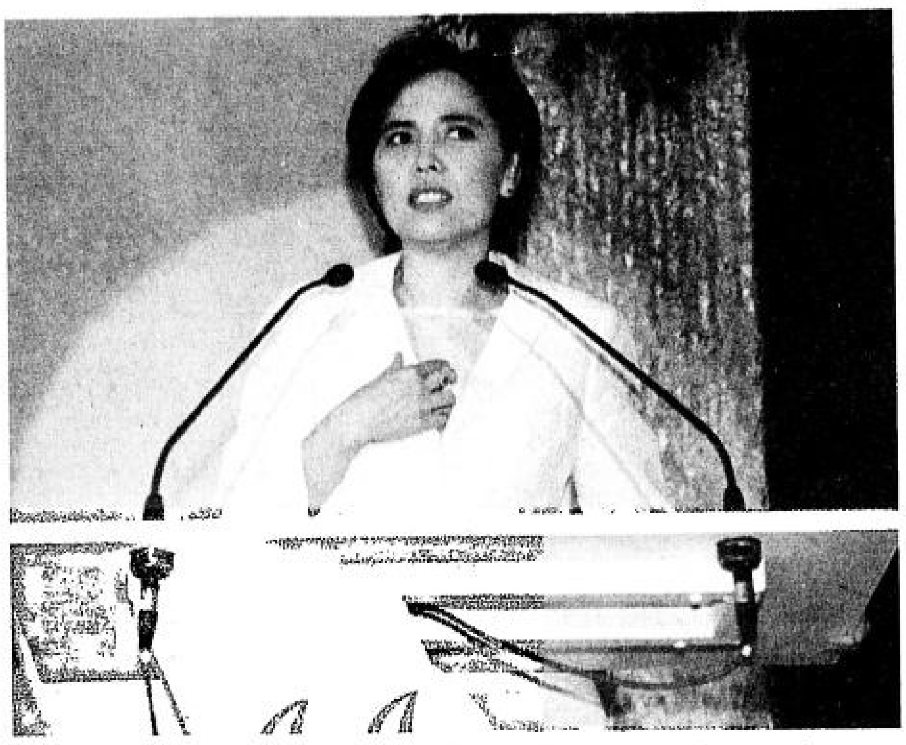
NISSAN GOODYEAR 92.3 ants.



PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BUSINESSMonday
Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

EIKI
MULTIMEDIA PROJECTOR
Made in Japan
A wide range of models to meet your every need
AV SALES & RENTALS
DESIGN
SYSTEM INTEGRATION
The Brain Computer Corporation
Your One Stop Audiovisual Shop!
Tel Nos.: 722-8843/ 722-8845/727-9803/ 721-2466
721-2451 E-Mail: brain@mozcom.com

Exec returns to career she left for family


JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

CASTAÑO: As individuals, we are all capable of leading our companies toward success, but only together can we make a better life for the Filipino truly possible.

By Margie Quimpo-Espino

WHEN her father passed away last January, newly appointed Johnson and Johnson (Philippines) Inc. president and managing director Grace del Rosario-Castaño saw how loved and respected her father was in the company he served for 50 years.

The realization made Grace, 38, go back to a career she gave up for her family. And with her return, she became the youngest and first female head of the 49-year-old J & J Philippines.

Her father, Pastor S. del Rosario, was the legal counsel of the Manila Electric Co. and assistant to the chair Manuel M. Lopez before he passed away.

During the wake, the body was brought to the Meralco theater upon the electric firm's request and she was so surprised to see it filled with people who wanted to bid her dad farewell for the last time.

"There was a line, and so many employees, including (Meralco) linemen would come to me and tell me stories about my father," she relates over lunch with SundayBiz.

That was when she realized that career and family life could be effectively balanced.

Twenty months ago, she quit her regional post at Johnson & Johnson to spend more time with her family and give entrepreneurship a go.

But the company she worked with for 10 years kept asking her to go back.

She admits that it got to a point when it was difficult to say no. But she also realized that in the talks between her and J & J officials, the things she asked for were for her personal causes. Seeing her father make an impact on the lives of people and a company made her aspire to do the same.

She says her father worked full-time for half a century but their family never felt that his job took him away from them.

In her speech during her introduction last Tuesday, Grace said her goal was to make a better country by contributing to a better economy.

"Each of us is preoccupied with making our own businesses succeed. Some of us work together, some of us may even compete with each other, but as we do that, growth happens, profit is realized, jobs are created, and the wheels of the economy turn smoother, faster and more consistently. As individuals, we are all capable of leading our companies toward success, but only together can we make a better life for the Filipino truly possible," she says.

"When I see that we are doing something for the Filipino and the Philippines, then I promise not to change my mind again. Because if we can make a better country via a stronger economy, then I can proudly face my children and tell them that I did it for them, and for a hopeful new generation of Filipinos," she added.

J & J Asean Consumer Group of Companies president Ding Salvador says he and Grace are like brother and sister.

Grace says that with her return, she promises growth for its trade partners; more innovative products for the consumers; education, development and assistance to the firm's surrounding communities.

"To our competitors—I promise to be a pain in the neck—but only via the competition we will naturally have. What I can assure you is that Johnson and Johnson will always—no ifs or buts about it—conduct business according to fair and ethical trade practices," she stated.

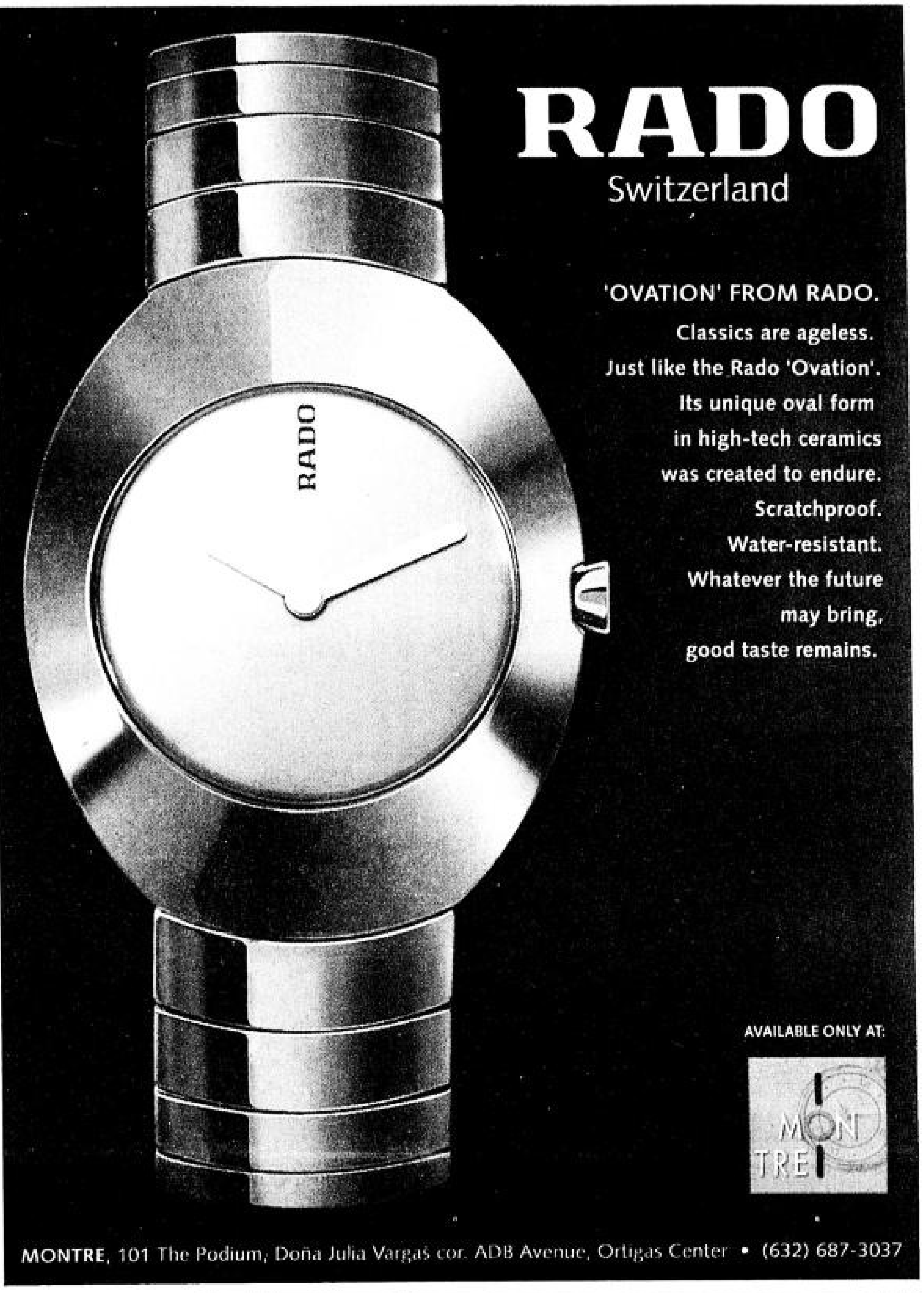
Grace used to be the marketing director of J & J, and she and her team were behind the Pure Essentials line—a Filipino creation and then exported to the region.

She stumbled upon making the Johnson's baby powder into compact form and gobbled up 50 percent of the market. She personally approved many of the company's brilliant ad campaigns.

When she left J & J in July 2000, she was the general manager for J & J Indonesia and vice president for Women's Health, Oral and Wound Care Franchise.

EXEC/ C7

WOMEN AT THE TOP. Universal McCann president Ricki Arches, Greenwich Pizza Corp. GM Gina Navarrete, Grace Castaño, Universal McCann chair Emily Abrera; Lowe Inc. president and CEO Marlles Gustilo, Philippine Daily Inquirer president Sandy Prieto-Romualdez.


RADO
Switzerland
'OVATION' FROM RADO.
Classics are ageless.
Just like the Rado 'Ovation'.
Its unique oval form
in high-tech ceramics
was created to endure.
Scratchproof.
Water-resistant.
Whatever the future
may bring,
good taste remains.
AVAILABLE ONLY AT:
MONTRE
MONTRE, 101 The Podium, Doña Julia Vargas cor. ADB Avenue, Ortigas Center • (632) 687-3037

iACADEMY
Get a guaranteed headstart in the field of Information and Communications Technology (ICT).
Acquire a College degree.
Courses
B.S. in Computer Science
B.S. in Information Management
B.S. in Business Administration
Learn the iACADEMY Way.
Our Curriculum Merits
Competence Development: Skills Certification
Carnegie Technology Education courses and vendor-based certification integrated in degree programs.
Applied Competence
A two-year phase where iACADEMY students study, recommend and design systems to be implemented in iACADEMY industry partner companies.
Experience Based Learning
A full-time seven to eight-month internship program where students work with professionals to develop a thorough understanding of business and technology issues in the corporate setting.
Acquire an Internationally Recognized Certificate from Carnegie Technology Education, a subsidiary of the world's top IT and research university.
Access world-class education at iACADEMY.
Think Possibility.
A Twinning Program between Carnegie Technology Education and STI Education Services Group
Only 50 slots left
Application and Enrollment Ongoing. Classes Start June 2002
Application forms are available at G/F Bankers' Centre Building 6764 Ayala Avenue, Makati City
Call 891.3865 or 891.3727 for inquiries • Email inquire@iacademy.ph • Visit www.iacademy.ph
A Partner of Carnegie Technology Education

Are our labor laws still compatible with a globalized environment?

MAPPING THE FUTURE

Augusto L. de Leon

NEWS reports regularly of employee layoffs, of young graduates even from the highly rated private schools still looking for jobs two years after they graduated.

Unemployment and underemployment rates in the Philippines are greater than those in many Asian countries. Firms rated as good employers in many other countries are unable to resolve labor disputes in their Philippine operations.

Firms are unable to make the kind of corporate adjustments necessary with the fast changing global business environment.

Labor laws and regulations are major determinants in the environment for employment and competitiveness of employers both in the private and public sectors. Labor also very much influences not only the development but also the attitudes and directions that organized labor take as its mission and objectives.

Studies

World Bank studies in 1997 report that based on comparative criteria of preparation and qualification, our workers come next after those from South Korea, Japan and Taiwan.

But could it be that our labor laws offset the education, skills and communication advantages of our workers, thereby limiting their opportunities to work and be productive contributors to our economy?

Philippine labor laws and regulations are greatly influenced by the labor laws of the United States, a country that has enjoyed high levels of employment rates.

Many of our labor laws were also adopted when protectionism was the economic policy.

In an environment where money is made by those able to take advantage of regulatory policies such as favored foreign exchange, tariff wall protection or outright ban of competition, corresponding legislations were justified to ensure that labor got some share of the economic advantages gained by those who are able to profit under the umbrella of government policies and regulations.

Globalization

Globalization has radically changed the rules of the game. Today, for employers to be able to make a profit and pay for their workers they have to add value on the basis of real wealth they create.

And these are measured in competitive terms with producers not only in the country but also on an international basis. We have moved from a protected market system to an open market economy on a global basis.

A recent article in a newspaper cites the case of Nestlé's Cabuyao plant where the union struck.

The author pointed out that Mexicans take risk to cross the border and seek work in the United States at legal minimum wage of $6.25 per hour versus the legal minimum in Mexico of $3.50 per day.

While the striking Nestlé employees earn P490,000 ($9,607.84) per year, or $36.96 per day or $4.62 per hour. The much higher pay rate of the Filipino worker does not include benefits such as paid leaves, paid holidays and other fringe benefits which may be non-existent for the minimum wage earner in the United States.

Second look

It will seem that the time has come for our labor movement to take a second look at its mission, vision and strategies.

The labor movements in many countries like the United States have managed to reengineer themselves so they can continue to be relevant and adjust to the realities of the world economy.

Many unions have recognized that they have to support changes that will lead to productivity, including downsizing, wage cuts, relaxation of rigid workplace tradition and practices.

Our academic institutions have a real opportunity to take on a most important task of undertaking the necessary research and review of our labor laws and regulations.

There is indeed a need for objective legislative proposals that will be fair to labor without rendering those employing them non-competitive in the new business environment.

It is still necessary to provide protective cover to labor at the same time making provision for the need to make our labor environment more conducive to encourage the increase of employment. It will not seem to make sense to protect an unproductive worker at the expense of a more qualified and more productive one. Nor does it make sense to provide a protective security to a worker to a point that he is not motivated to be trained or retrained to be more productive.

First steps

It will seem that one of the first steps should be to reconsider the applicability of our labor laws to all classification of employees. There may be a need to make the laws relevant and pertinent to more specific types of employment.

Our eight-hour labor laws may still be relevant to factories requiring strenuous manual work from their labor force, but may no longer be applicable to office workers working in air-conditioned offices.

Some employees would rather work 10 hours a day for five days rather than work eight hours for six days.

It is practical as it saves transportation cost and travel time, but the practice should not penalize the employer for overtime pay of two hours a day just because the employee worked for 10 hours.

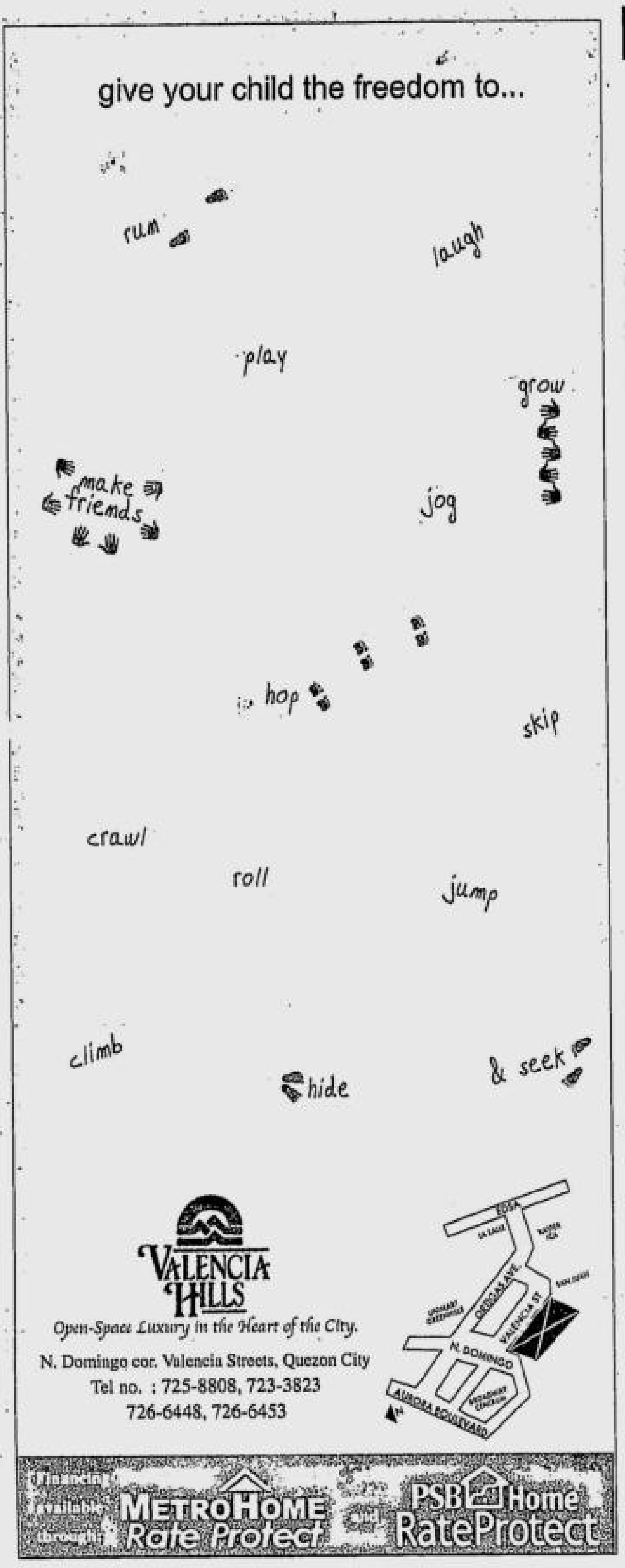
Our labor regulation and precedents tend to cause rigidity in compensation and in work assignments when the conditions of work are rapidly changing. What was highly paid work in the past is no longer the same job that has greater value today.

For example, one knowledgeable in electronics today can surpass the value of a skilled machine operator, but often when the more highly valued person with skills in electronics is paid more, the traditionally higher paid skilled worker and the union will demand that he continue to get an even higher pay.

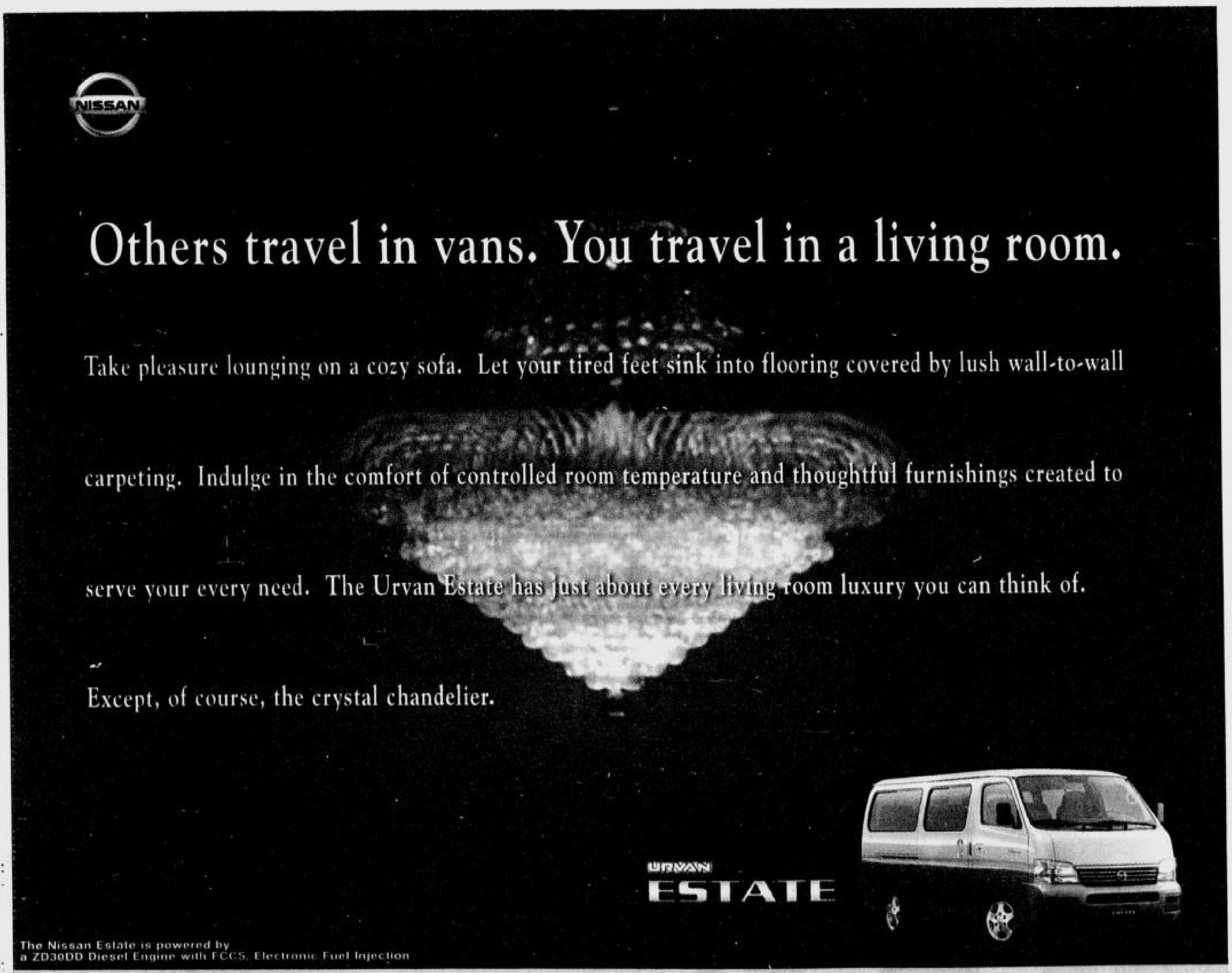
The claimed distortion of pay among employees causes a distortion of cost that rendered a firm non-competitive.

Changes in the ways work is done to be competitive are often not matched with the corresponding need for the labor resource to adjust because of the rigid nature of labor

ARE/ C3



VALENCIA HILLS
Open-Space Luxury in the Heart of the City.
N. Domingo cor. Valencia Streets, Quezon City
Tel no. : 725-8808, 723-3823
726-6448, 726-6453
Financing available through METROHOME Rate Protect or PSB Home RateProtect



Take pleasure lounging on a cozy sofa. Let your tired feet sink into flooring covered by lush wall-to-wall carpeting. Indulge in the comfort of controlled room temperature and thoughtful furnishings created to serve your every need. The Urvan Estate has just about every living room luxury you can think of.

Except, of course, the crystal chandelier.

The Nissan Estate is powered by
a ZD30DD Diesel Engine with ECCS, Electronic Fuel Injection

NISSAN
Universal Motors Corporation
Exclusive assembler and distributor of Nissan light commercial and recreational vehicles.

METRO MANILA DEALERS: • CORE AUTOMOTIVE RESOURCES, INC. (Makati) Tel. Nos. 816-9464 / 818-4598 / 892-0217 • CORE AUTOMOTIVE RESOURCES, INC. (Quezon Ave.) Tel. Nos. 742-5192 / 740-1523 / 31/ 37/ 39 • Service With A Touch (SWAT) Tel. No. 810-0161 loc.334 / 347 • Universal Service & Technical Center Tel. Nos. 816-7073 to 75 / 892-7036 • NISSAN CENTRAL MANILA Tel. Nos. 251-9060 to 67 / 251-9056 • MANTRADE DEVELOPMENT CORP. (Makati) Tel. Nos. 843-3316 to 23 / 812-7762 to 57• NISSAN ALABANG Tel. Nos. 873-2602 / 873-2045 / 873-2849 / 873-2770 to 71• NISSAN U.N. Avenue (Manila) Tel. Nos. 525-9061 to 64 / 400-1522 • NISSAN GALLERY-ORTIGAS Tel. Nos. 633-2545 / 635-5858 / 438-4539 • NISSAN NORTH EDSA Tel. Nos. 455-8980 / 330-5331 • NISSAN COMMONWEALTH, INC. Tel. Nos. 932-0428 to 51 / 932-4001 LUZON DEALERS: • NISSAN SOUTHWOODS Manila Line: 845-1666 / (046) 430-1681 • NISSAN NAGA Tel. Nos. (0544) 723-577 to 79 • XENTREX AUTOMOTIVE, INC. (Pangasinan) Tel. Nos. (075) 522-0826 / 522-2858 • WORLD CARS INC. (Bulacan) Tel. Nos. (044) 766-2545 • Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija Tel. Nos. (044) 463-1570 / 463-7279 • Santiago City, Isabela Tel. No. (078) 682-8950 • NISSAN PAMPANGA Tel. Nos. (045) 961-5481 / 961-5481 to 82 • ROYCE MOTOR CENTER, INC. (Nueva Ecija) Tel. Nos. (044) 463-7210 to 12 / 463-5088 • Malolos, Bulacan Tel. Nos. (044) 791-2749 • Highway Baliuag, Bulacan Tel. Nos. (044) 766-0422 / 766-0444 • Santiago, Isabela Tel. Nos. (078) 682-7454 / 681-0706 to 07 • Pampanga Tel. No. (045) 961-773 to 74 VISAYAS DEALERS: • NISSAN ILOILO Tel. Nos. (033) 320-4051 to 54 • NISSAN FAMILY CENTER ILOILO Tel. Nos. (033) 320-2248 / 320-2084 / 320-4186 / 508-5878 • NISSAN BACOLOD Tel. Nos. (034) 435-1102 / 435-1311/ 434-8051 to 52 • NISSAN CEBU DISTRIBUTORS, INC. Tel. Nos. (032) 346-8422 to 25 MINDANAO DEALERS: • NISSAN FAMILY CENTER CAGAYAN DE ORO Tel. Nos. (08822) 722-672 / 710-237 / 856-1963 • NISSAN DAVAO Tel. Nos. (082) 221-1914 to 17 • General Santos City Tel. No. (083) 552-3228

Are our labor laws...

From page C2

laws regulation and past concessions to labor unions.

New rules

New rules on contract employment are now being made more rigid at a time when job security becomes more difficult to provide in an environment where markets keep on shifting.

Even India with labor laws that have the same underpinning as our labor legislation is fast learning from China that it will not survive competition unless it starts to make work rules more flexible.

Industrial work rules are generally applied to agricultural workers. If a company hires a worker for six months in one year and hires the same person again for six months in the next season, the person can claim to be a permanent employee already.

Farm works are often seasonal in nature and the work force comes from the same community, so rules on hiring seasonal workers can inhibit value adding venture activities at the farm level.

At a time when jobs are most needed in the rural areas, work gets shifted to the urban areas that can source materials year round to keep workers busy on year round basis.

A review of all our labor laws, rules and regulation from the perspective of identifying those that inhibit the creation of employment opportunities and improvements in productivity and competitiveness should now be a matter of great priority.

We may have to take a second look if our emphasis in the past was too much to favor those who already have work, leaving to a great disadvantage those who are still looking for one.

A more balanced framework may be what our country needs during the era of globalization.

To make a review and changes, we need not go to extremes and be anti-labor. Malaysia is not known to have anti-labor policies and yet foreign investors in the past made their investments there, instead of the Philippines, even if Malaysia was in short supply of labor while the Philippines had an oversupply of skilled and more qualified unemployed.

(This article reflects the personal views of the author who is a member and past governor of Management Association of the Philippines and chair of De Leon Consulting. The MAP Secretariat and the author may be reached via mapsec @ globenet.com.ph.)

AQ DONUTS II

The DONUTS that satisfy your hunger for speed

Introducing New Bridgestone
POTENZA G III
Formula 1 Technology on the Street

Sporty. Stylish. Highly Advanced.

You know you want it. And you want it really bad. Because nothing compares to the adrenaline rush of speed.

But what's the use of speed without control?

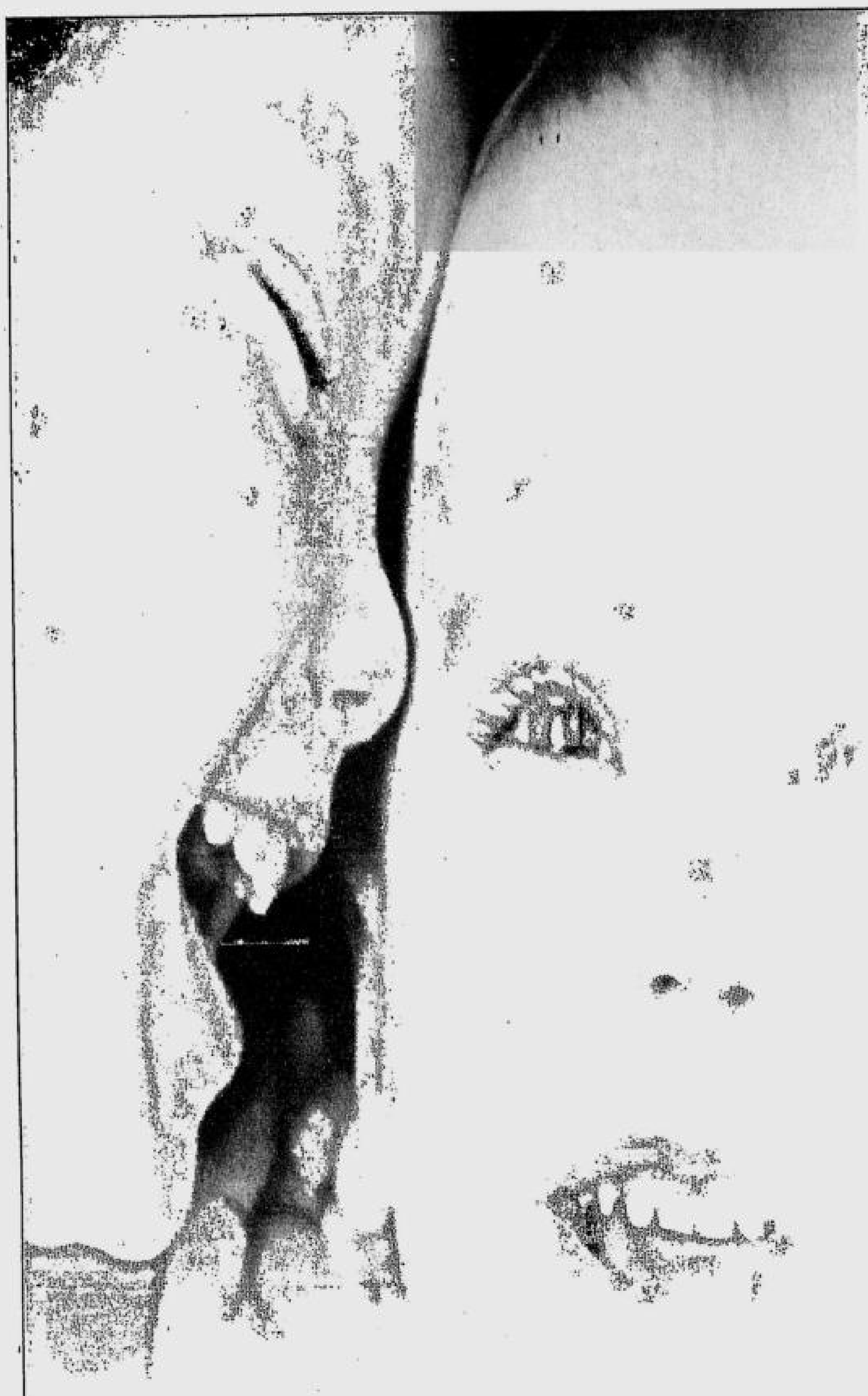
With the new Bridgestone G3 AQ Donuts II, you're in control with excellent balance and cornering ability, superior driving and braking performance, and most importantly, unparalleled ride comfort. But what separates the new Bridgestone G3 from others is its Formula 1 inspired sporty unidirectional tread pattern and stylish sidewall design.

- Hydro Evacuation Surface
- Super Longer Link Carbon with Particle Z
- Consistent Surface Contact
- Dual Layer Tread II & AQ Compound II

Available in 40, 45, 50 and 55 series.

BRIDGESTONE
A GRIP ON THE FUTURE

Exclusively distributed by:
Philippine Allied Enterprises Corporation
2260 Pasong Tamo Extension, Makati City
Tel. Nos. 812-2155 to 58; 812-8211; 812-8257



It's N new life

Now, The Cool Truth About Catechin.

So air is kept safe and healthy.

Breathe this cool truth. Finally! Cool air is made even more comfortable and safer to breathe. Introducing, the new models of **National Split Type Air Conditioner**. With the revolutionary air purifying **Catechin Filter** that gets rid of dust, smoke and airborne viruses and bacteria. So air is not just kept cool, it's also made cleaner and fresher.

It also comes with the deodorizing **Solar Refreshing Filter** that absorbs smoke, pet dander and other odor-causing particles for pleasant, purer air.

With improved **super high Energy Efficiency Ratio (EER)** that spells bigger energy savings! All in a new and elegant look.

The new **National Split Type Air Conditioner**. Truly, it's N new air of healthy, cool comfort for you and your family. Only from **National**.

CATECHIN FILTER

SOLAR REFRESHING FILTER

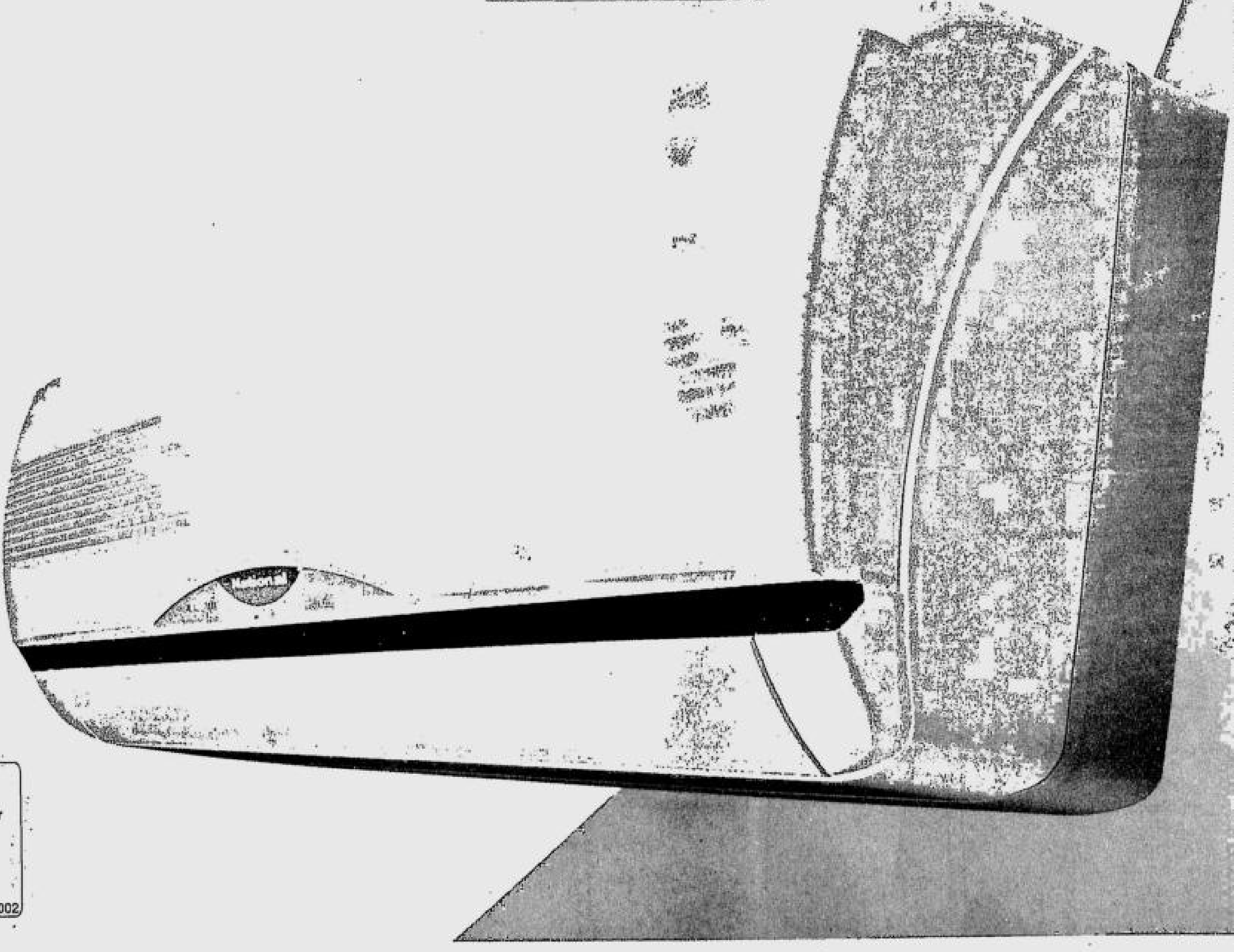
Register via the National Aircon Call Center

718 - 2918

[illegible]

1-800-10-CALLCTR (1-800-10-2255-287)

FOR NON METRO MANILA USERS

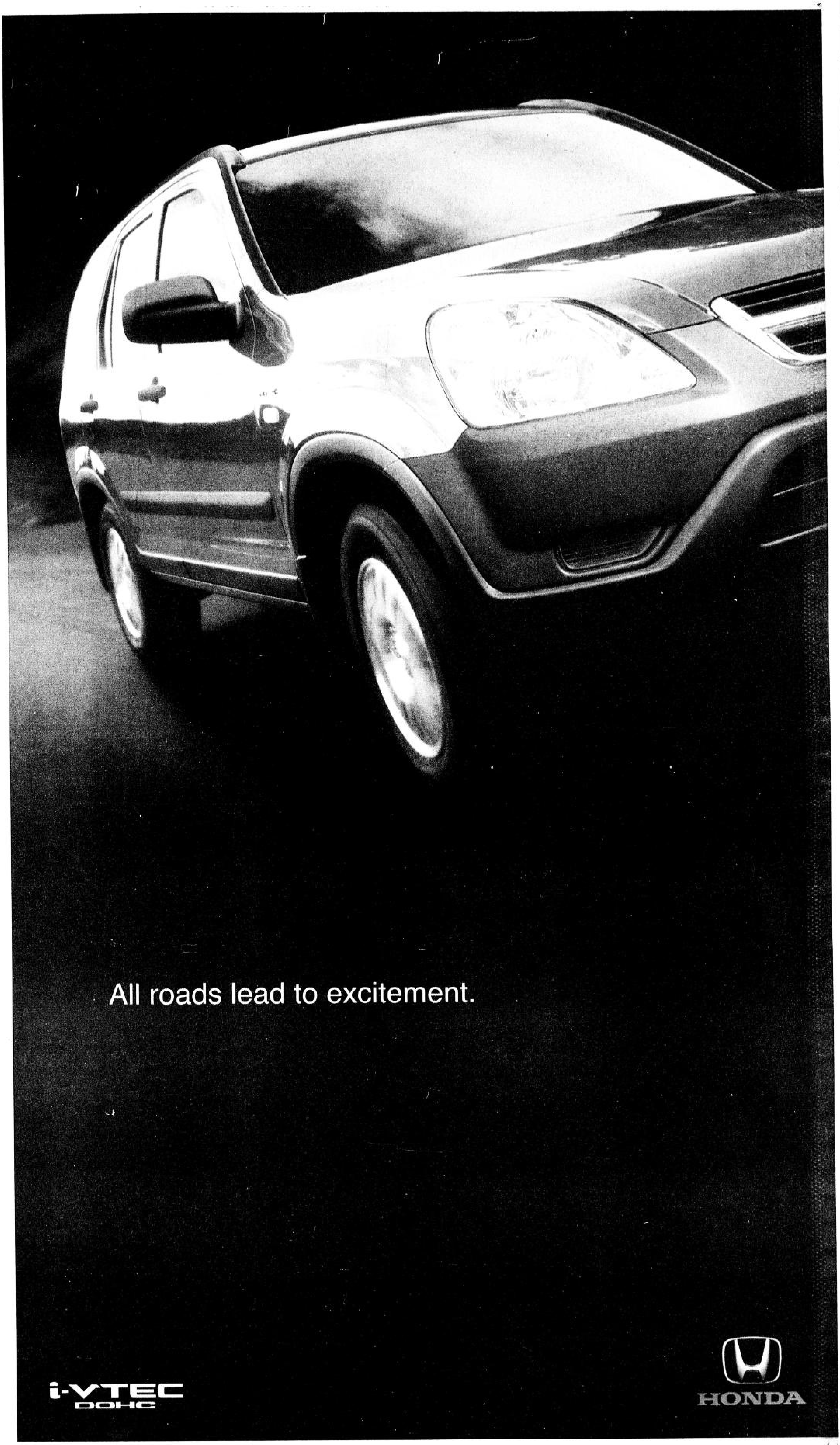


FREE!

4 pc. Mug Set
when you buy any
National Split Type or Window Type Air Conditioner.
Hurry! Promo runs from April 1 - May 31, 2002.

Per DTI-NCR Permit no.0584, Series of 2002

National


All roads lead to excitement.
i-VTEC
DOHC
HONDA

Permanent employment not key to earning big

By Jovelyn Reyes
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

BAGUIO CITY—Workers may not like this, but temporary or contractual employment, part time jobs and self-employment have become the trend in the 21st century workplace.

These forms of employment may not appeal to Filipino workers due to their bias for permanent or regular employment, former Labor Secretary Nieves Confesor said in a recent forum at the Asian Institute of Management here.

But she said the prevailing trend in the world's workplace was "flexibility" and "mobility" because the "new employers" in the 21st century have also changed.

"Employers do not expect loyalty from their employees anymore, the command and control style of corporation is now a part of the old industrial age. Employees just come and go, which is the trend," she said.

The change in corporate and business demographics, expectations and value systems affect the present employer-employee relationship, she said.

Companies also require low commitment from flexible workers "and require cheap labor costs," said Confesor, who is also a professor at AIM.

She cited a recent AIM study which concluded that 90 percent of the "workers of the future"were contractual or temporary and self-employed, while the remaining 10 percent were employees spread out in the bureaucracy, military and the church.

"The new workplace will be an arrangement rather than a work area, an interconnected system rather than a building," she said.

"Employers need to learn how to manage people they do not see . . . a sense of mutual reliance becomes vital," she said.

With globalization of markets, changing consumer preferences, commerce and financial flows, the world would need "more knowledge workers with portable careers," she said.

"(Workers) would require flexibility and mobility if they want to survive the new work trend. Industrial age has long been gone; (the world) doesn't need just skilled workers but brained workers. It's the knowledge age," she said.

Confesor described the "knowledge workers" as the "new capitalists." She, however, lamented that most Filipinos still preferred the usual "8 a.m. to 5 p.m. jobs."

"Workers should be in transition, in between jobs and training and other activities," she said.

"(Non-permanent employment) may have left a negative impression on the labor sector for the past centuries, but (workers) don't understand the trend and they keep on opposing it. They should clearly understand how companies work," she said.

As an alternative, she said, workers should either shift to entrepreneurial activities or to the service industry, like tourism and agriculture, because these are the only industries that could survive the prevailing trend.

"It does not require mass production and global competition," she said.

Confesor said the increase in wages would not be addressed effectively in a permanent employment setup.

"People can't live with the minimum wage, but it is not also the role of the government to provide them an increase in (their) wages. The 21st century workers will receive wages based on their performance," she said.

Many multinational companies, Confesor said, have shifted to the performance-based and profit sharing types of remuneration because it is the trend.

"Workers get only what they deserve," she said.

EV ESPIRITU

CONFESOR

Manager tells people to reach for higher goals

From page C8

1965 as management analyst of the budget commission. He also worked for the management consultancy services division of Joaquin Cunanan & Co., and as director for human resources and administration for Avon Thailand and Avon China.

Long experience

He joined Amway in 1996 as director for corporate services before he was appointed country manager in 2000, the first Filipino to hold the post.

He says his long experience in the human resources field allowed him to get a glimpse of the many styles that can be adopted to manage different kinds of people.

He has to be a kind of chameleon to be able to change his management style to bring out the best in people. He says a uniform style can not be applied since people react differently to the same situation.

"You can not treat people the same way. There are different ways of management people but there are guiding principles that can be applied to all. There should be standards," he says.

There are some people, he say, who react better to a more aggressive or dictatorial manner of management. There are some, on the other hand, who want to be left alone and this is how Pizarro generally works.

"I believe in giving people enough leeway to make decisions. I am not one to be naturally aggressive because I believe that it is a sign that you are weak," he says.

On the contrary, Pizarro is known to be approachable, and readily gives a part of his day to talk to a distributor who comes to the Amway office.

"I make it a point to meet them when they come here. I want them to know and feel how the managers work for them. I consider the time spent with them very important," Pizarro says.

Boosting morale

Boosting the morale of the 45 staff and 40,000 distributors is especially important these days, Pizarro explains, as Amway is coming out of a slump attributed to the ill effects of the Asian currency crisis.

"We have been challenged over the last two years because of the crisis. We had to do a lot of consolidation. We had to shed some people and we have to close some stores, but things are looking up and we are confident that we will be able to build the operations again this year," he says.

Amway is on its 5th year of operations and from just 11 products when it started in 1997, it now has more than 100 products including home care formulas, skin care and make-up line, organic nutritional supplements, and even organic fertilizers.

Amway has 15 centers, the newest of which is located in Cauayan, Isabela, a farming community that is testing Amway's agricultural products.

AIM sets alumni homecoming

THE ASIAN Institute of Management (AIM), Asia's premiere business graduate school, will hold an alumni homecoming on May 10, at the NBC Tent, Fort Bonifacio Global City with MBM Class '82 as host.

To highlight the homecoming celebration are three executive lectures slated on May 9 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the AIM Building in Makati City. The lectures are free and open for alumni.

"Mid-Life Challenge," sponsored by MBM Batches 1970-1979, will present different insights into this unavoidable phase in one's life. It will be given by Dr. June Pagaduan-Lopez of the Philippine Heart Center and Maribi Mapa-Garcia, co-founder of the Bethesda Spring of Hope Healing Ministry.

"The Science of Creativity: A Means to a Better Life" will be sponsored by Batches 1980-1989. To be conducted by Elsbeth Macdonald, this short experiential seminar will give listeners a taste of their own potential by letting them experience the power of their mind.

Oracle Database Clusters
Unbreakable

Can't break it — Won't go down if your server fails.
Won't go down if your site fails.

Can't break in — 14 International security certifications.

ORACLE®

oracle.com
or call 1800-144-10054

Copyright ©2001 Oracle Corporation. All rights reserved. Oracle is a registered trademark of Oracle Corporation. Other names may be trademarks of their respective owners.

EDD Fuentes of Fuentes Publicity, McCann chair Emily Abrera, Grace's husband, Paolo V. Castano, president of Brands Worldwide Inc., distributor of Woolite, Wet Ones, Chubs, French's Mustard, Arnott's; Chet M. Espino, president of Marathon Publishing, publisher of Baby Magazine and Weddings Magazine.

Exec returns to career she left for family

From page C1

Her life then consisted of leaving Manila on Monday mornings for Indonesia, and then flying back on Saturdays. She saw the effect of her absence on her two sons and decided to take a sabbatical leave.

She turned her back on her career to take care of her kids and she ventured into a skin care line for teens called Mesaki, together with husband Paolo V. Castano, president and managing director of Brands Worldwide Inc., the Asean distributor of American products like Woolite, Playtex, Wet Ones, Chubs, Arnott's, French's Mustard.

Mesaki proved quite successful but it has since been turned over to the Rustan's group.

Grace admits that during her leave, many of her colleagues had been calling and asking her to return. After her realization during her dad's wake, she had a long talk with her family and got their support to go back.

Her post now requires less travel so she will be able to manage family life.

And she says, she will be able to work once more "with Filipinos, whom I still think are one of the most talented in the world."

"I admit, I missed working with a bright, energetic, aggressive team. I missed the challenge of pitting my products against the biggest and the best in the marketplace," she stated.

Asean J & J head D.C. Salvador describes Grace as "frank but never antagonizing, a cool disposition with a funny bone."

J &J's Ding Salvador with Castano

He adds that it was tough for Grace to see her personal life get affected by work but it was also difficult for her to part with a company she loves.

Salvador says the US office was the one who wanted Grace to head J & J, principally because her "values are in line with our practices."

Grace had a stint in J & J in the US in 1997. She attended an advanced management program at the University of California Berkley and is a graduate of the Asian Institute of Management. She graduated magna cum laude from the UP College of Business Administration.

FAMILY. ACCENTURE president and brother of Castano, Bing del Rosario; Mikey del Rosario; I/Act GM Joseph Tan; I/Act president and Castano's sister, Patty del Rosario; and Castano.

J & J TEAM. Castano, J & J HR director Sharon Fernandez, J & J senior franchise manager Sam S. Yambao, J & J franchising manager Jerome Go, Kenneth Chua; and J & J marketing director Grace Chua.

GMA Marketing and Productions Inc. president and COO Meckoy Quiogue; regional market research director for the Asia-Pacific Detdet Altavas; Castano; Bobby Barreiro; and Avon regional VP Asia-Pacific and Grace's sister, Ina Quiogue.

J & J's Cres Toledo, Castano, Citibank country corporate officer Catherine Weir; Citibank head of global relations Marlene Piccio and Citibank corporate banking head Peter Eliot.

Drive in comfort, run errands with ease and leave the city behind for precious relaxation. Honda combines i-VTEC power and optimum fuel efficiency with spacious cabins and flexible seating in the new CR-V. The rugged power of an SUV fused with the smooth comfort of a sedan.

Others promise freedom, but only the CR-V delivers true liberation. Whatever your journey, whatever your goal, all roads lead to excitement.

ALL- NEW
CR-V
Things to see. Places to go.

HONDA

Manager tells people to reach for higher goals

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

PIZARRO

MANAGING a company that relies heavily on independent distributors presents a different kind of a challenge for a chief executive officer. For one thing, the distributors are not direct employees of a company.

The agents or distributors can leave anytime, and a company can not threaten them with any disciplinary action to make them perform. The challenge then is to make these distributors stay loyal to a company.

Fred T. Pizarro Jr., country manager of Amway Philippines, says he tries to rise up to the challenge by keeping the 40,000 plus agents motivated by developing a company culture that rewards performers and allows open communication between management and distributors.

MANAGEMEI STYLES

"Our business is a people business so I adopt a style that is personal in approach. I also try to tell the independent distributors that they should believe in a self-fulfilling prophecy. This means that they should think that they could achieve lofty goals for themselves. It they think they can achieve it, chances are it will happen," Pizzaro explains.

Pizarro adds seminars, training sessions and frequent dialogs with the staff go a long way in promoting this belief system across the organization. He says developing the attitude is more important, rather than just teaching a new set of skills.

"I believe that skills are easily acquired. The harder thing to do is to make the person feel that he can do his job well," he says.

Pizarro developed his management style through almost 30 years of working in the human resources field.

This Public Administration graduate of the University of the Philippines started his career in

MANAGER/ C6

A School That Nurtures Your Child So He May Reach His Full Potential.

Reedley International School

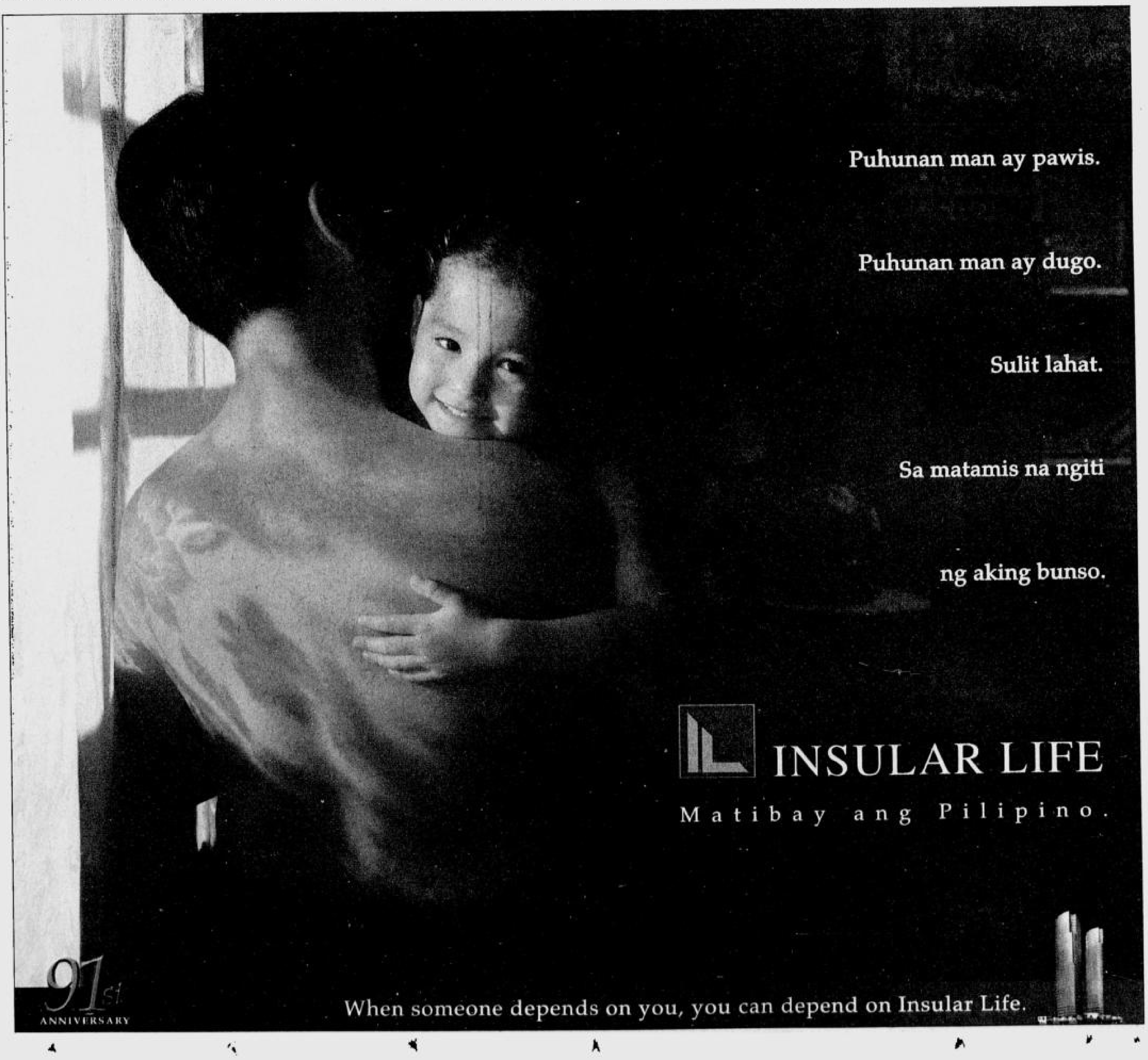
Integrating the best of Singaporean and American curricula from elementary to high school and now even IPS level.

- Excellent program combining Singaporeans' high standards in Math & Sciences and Americans' exceptional communication skills
- Low teacher : student ratio for better classroom interaction
- Air-conditioned classrooms
- A coed international school
- Nurturing atmosphere, encouraging students to grow as creative and critical thinkers with developed social and leadership skills
- Solid academic foundation in preparation for further studies here or abroad

Pasig Boulevard cor. Rosemarie Lane, Pasig City • 671-8982 to 85

School Levels:
Grades 1 – 4 (Lower School)
Grades 5 – 7 (Middle School)
Grades 9 – 12 (Upper School)

Now also accepting students for
IPS - Introduction to
Primary Schooling
(Equivalent to Preparatory)


Puhunan man ay pawis.
Puhunan man ay dugo.
Sulit lahat.
Sa matamis na ngiti
ng aking bunso.
INSULAR LIFE
Matibay ang Pilipino.
91st ANNIVERSARY
When someone depends on you, you can depend on Insular Life.

For feedback, text us at (0918)917-5026 or email us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

LIFESTYLE

Arts & Design

Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso ● Subsection Editor Lito B. Zulueta

'Batang West Side' wins top prize in Singapore filmfest

Story on page D4

Look Better, Feel Better and Enjoy Vim and Vigor

POWER-UP

Burns Fat and Boosts Energy!

Exclusively distributed in the Philippines by:
HEALTH FOOD & FOOD HERB PRODUCTS, INC.
Park Square 1, Ayala Center, Makati City
Tel. Nos. 894-2386 • 894-2387
Website: www.drink.to/healthfood

1 lost 81 pounds in
Power-Up It's

Available at all mercury drug Watsons NUTRACEUTICAL SYSTEM INC.

WHAT'S ON AT ROBINSONS

PARLIAMENT SYNDICATE

Fire up your afternoons with one of the hottest new bands in the local scene!

April 30, Tuesday, 5pm
Fountain Area
Robinsons Galleria

May 8, Wednesday, 5pm
Fountain Area
Robinsons Metro East

May 12, Sunday, 5pm
Fountain Area
Robinsons Place Imus

ROBINSONS Malls

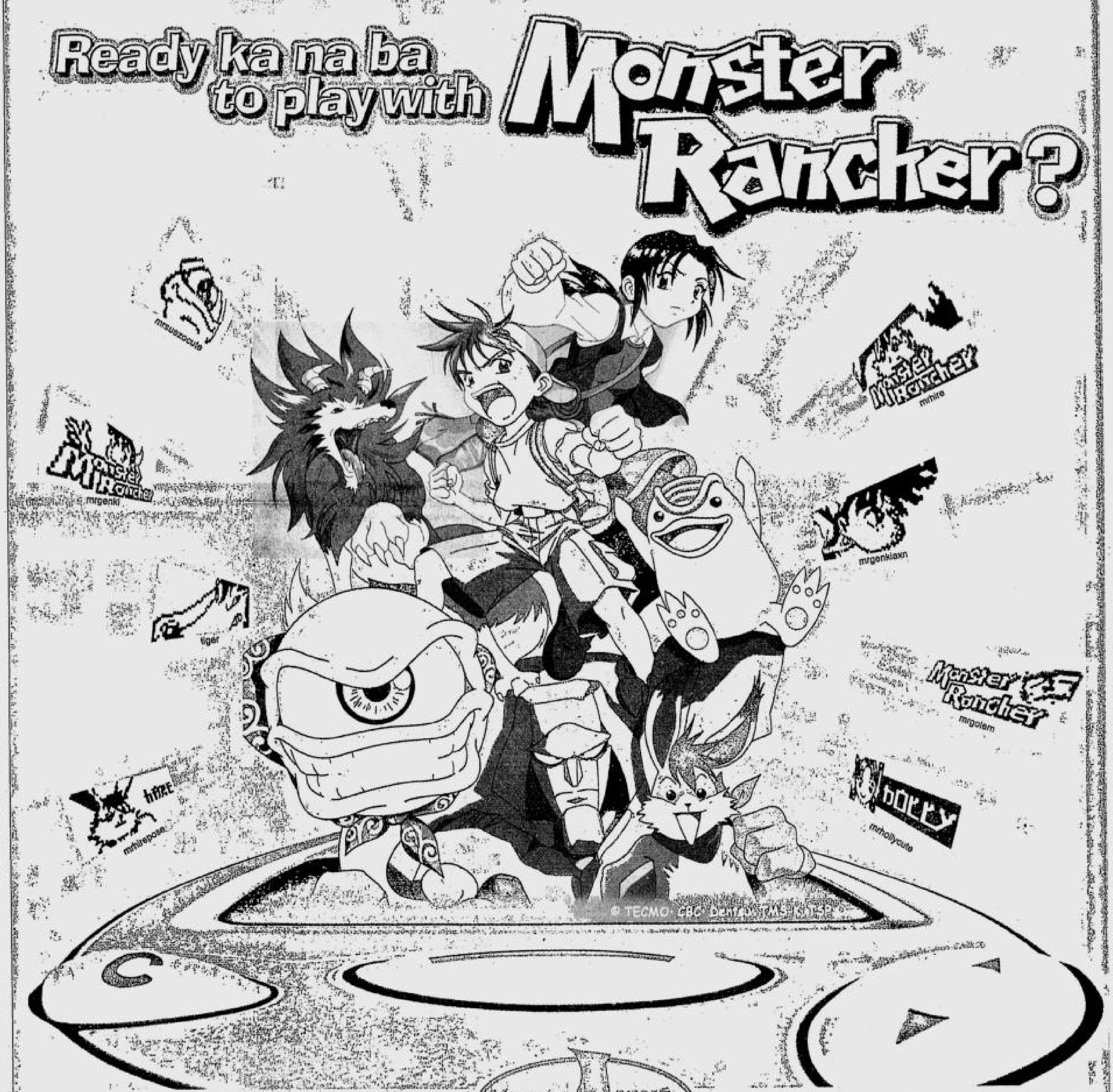
visit us at www.robinsonsland.com

Critics to name best Pinoy films of the last 30 years

Story on page D6

Cinematic eye-openers at Hong Kong festival

Story on page D2



Painit na nang painit ang Animé fever!

Aksyon Animé Klub

Kaya join na sa Aksyon Animé Klub!

Sa Talk 'N Text celfone mo, lagi kang game with Genki, Holly, Mocchi, at iba pang mga cute characters ng Monster Rancher! Download na ng official Monster Rancher picture messages, ringtones, logos, group graphics, screen savers, at adventure game!

Para mag-register:

1. Send **"JOIN ANIME"** to **235**
2. Key in **"NAME <full name>"** and send to **235**
3. Key in **"BIRTH <mmddyyyy>"** and send to **235**
4. Key in **"ADD <complete address>"** and send to **235**

A subscriber may register only once.
Subscribers will be charged P2.50 per message sent.

To get the MONSTER RANCHER...	Type and send to 235
List of Available Logos*	LOGO MR
List of Available Picture Messages*	PIC MR
List of Group Graphics*	GROUP MR
List of Available Screen Savers**	SAVER MR
List of Available Ringtones*	TONE MR
To play the Adventure Game	PLAY MR1
Help on different commands	HELP
To invite your friends to join the Klub	INVITE <your friend's number>

*Service can be downloaded only via selected handsets
**Available only on Nokia 3310, 3330 and 8250

SAMPLE LOGOS Example: Type LOGO GENKI and send to 235

genki	golem	tiger	holly
mrlogo	suezo	mrhireface	mrhappymocchi

SAMPLE PICTURE MESSAGES Example: Type PIC GENKI and send to 235

genki	mrgolemface	hire	holly
mocchi	mrtigercute	mrsuezo	mrgenkimocchi

MONSTER RANCHER RINGTONES Example: Type TONE MROPEN1 and send to 235

MROPEN1 MROPEN2 MRCLOSE1 MRCLOSE2

Download requests will be charged as follows: Help and other regular commands – P2.50; logos, picture messages, group graphics, screen savers, ringtones – P12.00

Another exciting text-based service only from

TALK 'N TEXT GSM

Powered by: Information Gateway

Yan ang galing without overspending!

POWERED BY THE SMART NETWORK

Cinematic eye-openers at Hong Kong festival

By Gino Dormiendo
Contributor

TRUE to its word, the 26th Hong Kong International Film Festival was a veritable showcase of mostly new, highly innovative and largely diverse films from the four corners of the globe—thanks to the festival's new management, headed by festival director Peter Tsi. With the slogan "Open your eyes and expose yourself to cinema!," the HKIFF unreeled for 10 days (March 27-April 7), luring all certified cinephiles to the wide spectrum of subjects, styles and genres featured in its various festival programs, dominated by youth films and young filmmakers from Asia.

This year's HKIFF edition, now under the Hong Kong Arts Development Council, opened with two new films—from the host and Germany—which set the festival's mood. "Hollywood Hong Kong" comes close in the heels of its indie director Fruit Chan's "Prostitute Trilogy," a sardonic allegory of the post-handover Hong Kong. It tells the story of a mainland hooker who crosses over to the other side of an HK shantytown, causing pandemonium. The German Tom Tykwer's "Heaven" has the same propulsive storytelling of his previous films ("Run Lola Run," "The Princess and the Warrior"), with luminous performances by Cate Blanchett and Giovanni Ribisi as an unlikely pair of lovers who takes on the local drug syndicate and the corrupt police, based on an original Krysztovf Kieslowski tale.

Taiwan's "What Time Is It There?" (the Singapore Filmfest's choice for closing film) by Tsai Ming-liang echoes his past works. It shows his brand of melancholic absurdist humor in this examination of alienation and urban despair.

But the undisputed knockout was Robert Altman's brilliant comedy of manners, "Gosford Park," a satire of the 1930s' English aristocracy in decline with its multiple storylines and subplots unfolding all at the same time. Altman, the true master of ensemble films, throws in his customary barbs at the opposite classes of the social spectrum—the bored aristocrats upstairs and the canny servants and workers who toil downstairs. What a star-studded cast, too, featuring a host of British thespians led by Kristin Scott Thomas, Maggie Smith, Alan Bates and Emily Watson, who are all marvelous!

"TAKE Care of My Cat"

"A Tree of Palme"

"CHOU-CHOU"

"LILY Festival"

Riveting

Among the new films in the gala program, I found two equally riveting Asian films: the Japanese Iwai Shunji's "All About Lily Chou-Chou" and the Indian Pan Nalin's "Samsara." The former literally took our breath away with its asynchronous and elliptical narrative about a teenager's obsession with a virtual idol; it combines music, film and cyber-pop culture in a postmodern whodunit. The latter chronicles the journey of a Tibetan monk who forsakes the monastic life for the world to answer the call of sexual awakening. Rapturously photographed, the movie mirrors Prince Siddharta's own path toward enlightenment.

I also caught Milcho Manchevski's "Oust," his newest film after his 1994 Golden Lion award-winning debut, "Before the Rain." The new film is a daring Euro Western that takes place in two time periods, two countries and two stories simultaneously, combining the Wild West and the Macedonian revolution at the turn of the century. But it was Jill Sprecher's "Thirteen Conversations About One Thing" that proved intriguing, by way of its narrative and the highly ingenious treatment of time and space, moving backward and forward.

In the section "Master Class," I caught Abbas Kiarostami's "ABC Africa," a commissioned project by the UN about the millions of orphans in Uganda in the wake of the AIDS scourge and the protracted civil war. Using the DV format, the Iranian filmmaker enjoys uninterrupted freedom with his handheld camera as he and his team come to grips with the unspeakable horrors and debauchery in human suffering and the triumph of the human spirit in the AIDS-ravaged land.

Equally compelling is Ken Loach's new film, "The Navigators," which concerns a group of railway workers after the privatization of British Rail. Written by a railway worker himself who later died after contracting mesothelioma, a cancer caused by asbestos on the railway, the film is peopled by nonactors who are uniformly excellent. Their day-to-day struggles are cogently explored and dramatized.

Jacques Rivette's new film, "Who Knows?," mounts both a Pirandellian play and the scenario of actors living out their roles in ostensibly related fashion. It is about truth and lies, reality and fantasy, identity and memory. Obviously made by a master with a long affair with cinema, "Who Knows?" is riveting in ways old-fashioned and timeless.

Tribute

This year's subject of a directorial tribute was Manoel de Oleivera, presumably the oldest living filmmaker in the world today. The four films selected (two of which I saw) paid tribute to a master who continues to make movies after 60 years. I saw his early work "Aniki-Bobo," which concerns the children of the poorest section of Oporto in Portugal, and the more recent "The Oporto of My Childhood," a documentary about present-day Oporto, with its poetic style wonderfully intact.

Of the 20 new Asian films that competed for the Fifresci (the International Film Critics Federation) prize, the five-person jury voted the Hong Kong cartoon, "My Life as McDull," as best film. It was cited as a film at once local and universal, taking off from the aesthetics of cute to deliver a profound statement that captures its time and transcends borders. Other strong contenders were "The Human Comedy" by the Taiwanese Hung Hung and inspired by Balzac's "Comedie Humaine"; "Take Care of My Cat" by the South Korean Jeong Jae-eun, an exploration of friendship among women; and "Conjugation" by the Chinese Emily Tang.

The festival was dominated by young and innovative filmmakers, mostly from Japan, specifically from the Osaka Arts University. In the Zone and Midnight Heat sections, Japanese madness literally drove the other Asian ghosts away. In "Ichi the Killer," Mike Takahashi's ultra-violent film, a Yakuza henchman goes to town with razors, hooks, pins and needles in a phantasmagoric display of sadomasochistic feast. Among the film's highlights: a tongue is cut off, a woman's nipples are sliced off—ditto with legs, heads and arms, shown in graphic detail with geysers of blood spewing forth.

It was in The Zone where the Philippines' lone entry, Lav Diaz's five-hour opus, "Batang West Side," was screened. But the film was tame compared with the unrelieved mayhem of the shocking Japanese films.

This year's subject of director in focus was Ann Hui of Hong Kong. The Czech Jan Svankmajer was also given a five-film tribute. Hui, whose illustrious career covers over 20 years, has held her own in the region's volatile film scene, a pragmatic nonconformist, sophisticated stylist and occasionally dewy-eyed romantic. Her range of genres is remarkable—suspense thrillers, domestic dramas, romance, martial arts epics, documentaries—and her vision truly broad and encompassing. Her two new films in 2001, "July Rhapsody" and "Visible Secret," chronicle the city's transition to the 21st century.

I also caught a number of films in Filmmakers and Filmmaking—"Sneaking In—Donald Richie's Life in Film" and "Kurosawa"—on the famous film historian and the most famous Japanese director, respectively.

War

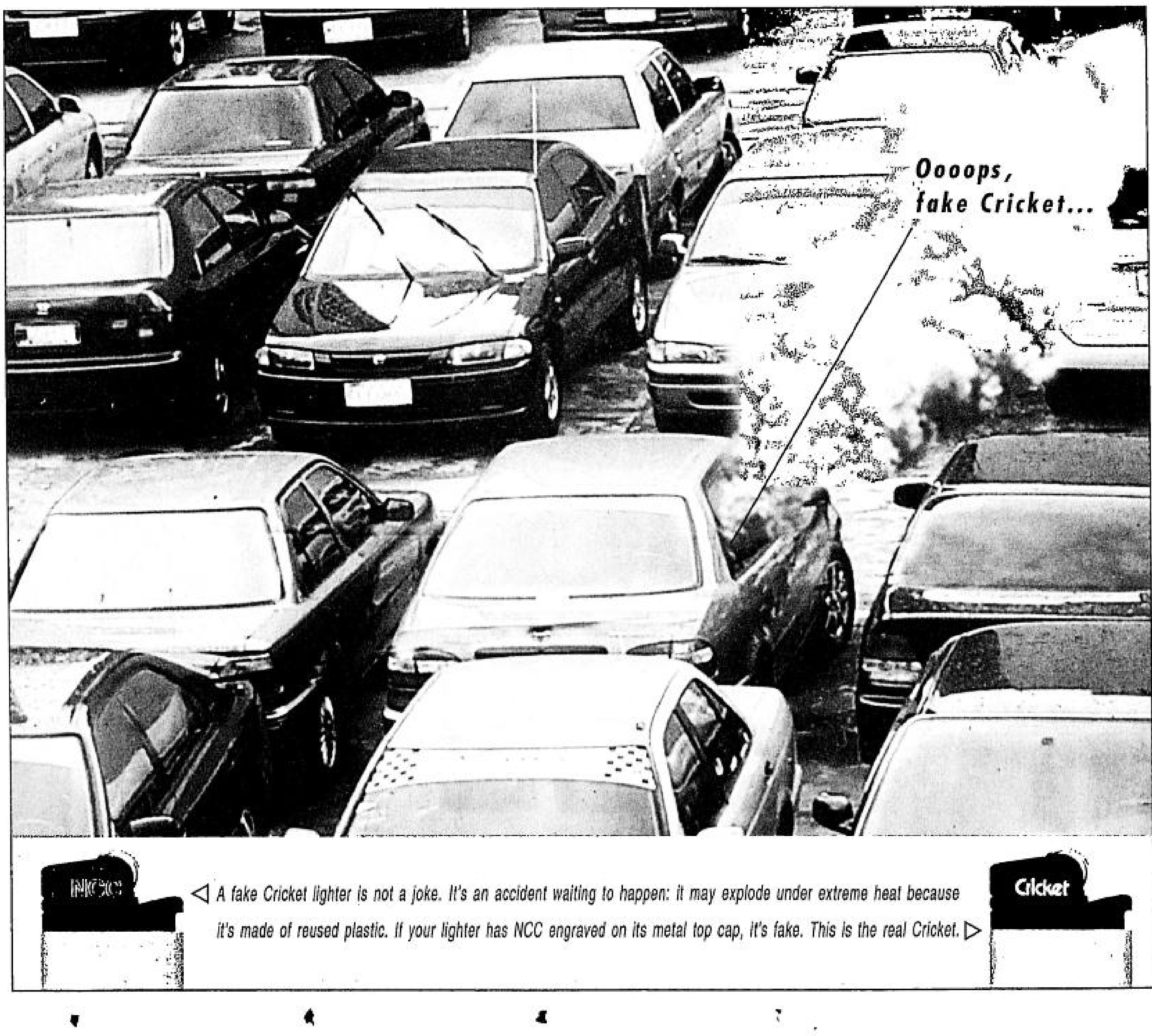
Then, by chance, I caught a memorable French film, "Lisa," in the section In the Shadow of War. The section consists of nine films that encompass a broad spectrum of war-related subjects, including ethnic cleansing and the Afghan war. "Lisa" has Jeanne Moreau playing the role of the present-day eponymous maiden whose love affair with a French actor in the 1930s becomes the subject of a documentary being made by an ardent cinephile.

Then there was "Taurus" by Alexander Sokurov, whose previous film, "Mother and Son," literally altered the course of filmmaking. The Russian filmmaker recreates the last days of Lenin, who now lies dying in his dacha, refusing to relinquish power to his successor. Deeply meditative, painfully tedious at times, "Taurus" delves into the arbitrariness of power and human fallibility, a theme that has haunted Sokurov, who has made death and dying as his main focus.

World animation through a series of new works from various countries was never more animated than in this year's festival. As expected, Japanese animé was the main attraction with "A Tree of Palme" and "Parlabor 3"—a lively mix of mange, futuristic visions and prehistoric memories. There were a number of short films, too, from various countries, including those by French master Eric Rohmer, who tested the digital video medium blown up to 35 mm from DV cam in "The Arch of the Back." This provocative tale of a man obsessed with *la cambrure*, the arch of a woman's back and its representation in painting and sculpture, presages his later production, "The Lady and the Duke," shot entirely in digital video.

Alas, this year's HKIFF only underscored the fact that while our Asian neighbors are making inroads in independent filmmaking, Philippine cinema has refused to alter its ways, still desperately clinging to the ways of the old.

E-mail the author at gdormiendo@yahoo.com



Oooops, fake Cricket...

NCC ◁ A fake Cricket lighter is not a joke. It's an accident waiting to happen: it may explode under extreme heat because it's made of reused plastic. If your lighter has NCC engraved on its metal top cap, it's fake. This is the real Cricket. ▷ Cricket

Real-life sweethearts fight and love in 'The Owl and the Pussycat'

By Cora Llamas
Contributor

THESE two twentysomethings are among the most talented theater artists of their generation. In just a short span of time, they have played parts that less daring actors wouldn't touch—anguished saints and conflicted idealists, neurotic revolutionaries and domineering aristocrats. Some of that talent can be attributed to genes: both come from families of actors that have won critical acclaim and audience respect. They're also real-life sweethearts.

Which should make Repertory Philippines' new comedy sizzle as Paolo Fabregas and Miren Alvarez square off in Bill Manoff's "The Owl and the Pussycat."

At first glance, the material seems to be lightweight, a departure from the classic stuff the two actors are used to. Hooker Doris, the pussycat, forces nerdy bookstore clerk Felix, the owl, to share living space after his self-righteous meddling causes her eviction from her apartment. Soon enough, the two are at each other's throats. However, as most theater buffs can predict in a comedy of this type, anger turns into passion, hate into love, and the two antagonists live happily ever after.

Well, not exactly, Paolo hastens to add, flashing that charming grin that dazzled many girls when it was made famous by a very popular toothpaste commercial some years back. "The journey of the play is not the love story, but how well the two characters can hide from each other. It is a comedy, but with a heavy undertone. Felix has to deny that he's falling in love with Doris, because if he accepts that love he has to recognize her as his equal."

Web of self-deception

The actors say the screwball comedy is actually a very intense, bittersweet and funny psychological chess game. The two characters hate their quiet, mediocre existence. They escape from it by pretending to be somebody else. The often-repeated lie weaves its web of self-deception, and woe to anyone who tries to shatter the illusion.

"They're both in denial," Miren explains. "Doris, the prostitute, was an actress-model who never really made it to the business. But she keeps introducing herself as an actress-model."

"Felix wants to be known as a writer; he spies on other people's lives," Paolo chips in. "When he sees all these gentlemen coming into her quarters, he reports it to the landlord—and that's how they meet. And their love for each other becomes part and parcel—as well as a source of conflict—of that self-denial."

It's not the first time the two played antagonists cum lovers. In Tanghalang Ateneo's (TA) production of "Mistress of the Inn," Carlo Goldoni's satire on the gender wars, Miren's title character slyly manipulates the pompous, dim-witted noblemen courting her; Paolo's Baron was one of her poor victims. In that same company's version of Shakespeare's "The Taming of the Shrew," Paolo's Petrucchio applied a mixture of wit and the whip to keep Miren's fiery man-devourer in line.

Father's ground rule

"Shrew" was a landmark of sorts for Miren; it was the first time the Ateneo philosophy graduate kissed a leading man on stage. No liplock of any kind was one of the conditions that her father, television and stage actor Roy Alvarez, laid down when he learned that his daughter was entering the theater world. Other than that, Miren giggles tongue-in-cheek, Roy and wife Nieves Campa, also a theater and TV actress, have always been very supportive of their daughter's stage forays.

Based on the elder Alvarez's reaction, Roy seemed confident enough to leave Miren in Paolo's more than capable hands. Roy reportedly remarked, "If Paolo is prepared for you to kiss other men, then that's fine by me—so now it's his problem!"

TA was instrumental in more ways than one in bringing the two together. Miren says TA artistic director Ricky Abad, who directed both "Mistress" and "Shrew," is a mutual acquaintance who kept trying to play matchmaker. Miren initially thought that the handsome but shy Paolo, who still feels slightly uncomfortable signing autographs, was *suplado*. His spontaneous guitar playing and singing after wrapping up an ANC TV segment, which she directed and where he guested, changed her impression.

What sealed their fate, so to speak, was the company's "Twelfth Night." Paolo, who was asked by Abad to be in his next production, watched to familiarize himself with the work. Miren comes in wearing a costume that was a combination of South Asian elegance and Caribbean daring.

"All of a sudden, she walks on stage," Paolo reenacts the moment. "She looked really good—and [as an actress] she was damn good. I kept muttering to myself, 'She has presence, she's beautiful'—oh, man, this is really bad."

Ice lady

During the first few nights, the flustered actor could only stare at the object of his affections, considering Miren's reserve and the presence of a trusted buddy-chaperone. "She was an ice lady and a snow queen," Paolo now laughs at the memory. "We'd go out on a date and an artist friend would chaperone. I was nervous as a dog trying to make conservation with her—she was scary!" He courted her for three months, something Paolo swears he hadn't done for any other girl, before Miren accepted.

It was happenstance that reunited the real-life sweethearts for Rep's new play. Paolo came to pick up Miren after her show, "Ten Little Indians." Rep artistic director Bibot Amador, who was directing, saw them together. The chemistry was perhaps so obvious that Amador quickly asked them to appear in the two-character comedy "The Owl and the Pussycat."

In many ways, Paolo's career was launched because he was at the right place at the right time. Several years ago, his acting resumé consisted of his performances in the International School's theater company. The son of Jaime Fabregas and younger brother of Lara, both accomplished thespians, Paolo never considered professional theater seriously. However, reading for a missing cast member during a rehearsal of Actor's Actor Inc.'s (AAI) "Our Country's Good" instantly got him a role.

"I was just hanging out to watch Lara," Paolo remembers. "One of the characters was missing. (Director) Bart (Guingona) asked me to read—and that was it. That became the casting." His performance as the idealistic, noble young lieutenant fighting to keep sanity and morality in a savage Australian colony in the 1900s convinced the theater community that a new talent was emerging.

> The chemistry was perhaps so obvious that Bibot Amador instantly asked the couple to appear in the two-character comedy

Other roles would follow, many of them complex, requiring him to dig into his psyche and his training to make the characters come alive: Francis of Assisi in the play of the same name, a masterful study of the essence of sainthood; the neurotic but brilliant gay young poet Arthur Rimbaud in Christopher Hamptom's "Total Eclipse"; and San Beda's college tour of the ill-fated king, "Oedipus Rex."

Dramatic parts

Miren has chalked up her fair share of heavy dramatic parts: Therese Lisieux in TA's play about the gentle saint, with dad Roy playing her stage father; the harassed "perfect" but unhappy wife in AAI's "Five Women Wearing the Same Dress"; and Ismene in Anton Juan's interpretation of the Greek classic "Antigone." Shakespeare is a perennial favorite.

One of her memorable roles was performing with her mother Nieves in AAI's "Mother Tongue," Filipino-Chinese-American Paul Stephen Lim's autobiographical tour-de-force about generations of Filipino-Chinese coping with issues like racism and identity. Miren played the younger version of Nieves' character, a Chinese mail-order bride married to a Philippine-based older Chinese businessman.

What comes as a surprise is that Paolo and Miren have no immediate stage plans after "The Owl and the Pussycat." Right now, Paolo is concentrating on his literature studies at the Ateneo. Miren, who hopes to become a director one day, is happy lining up and editing shoots for the Glue creative company.

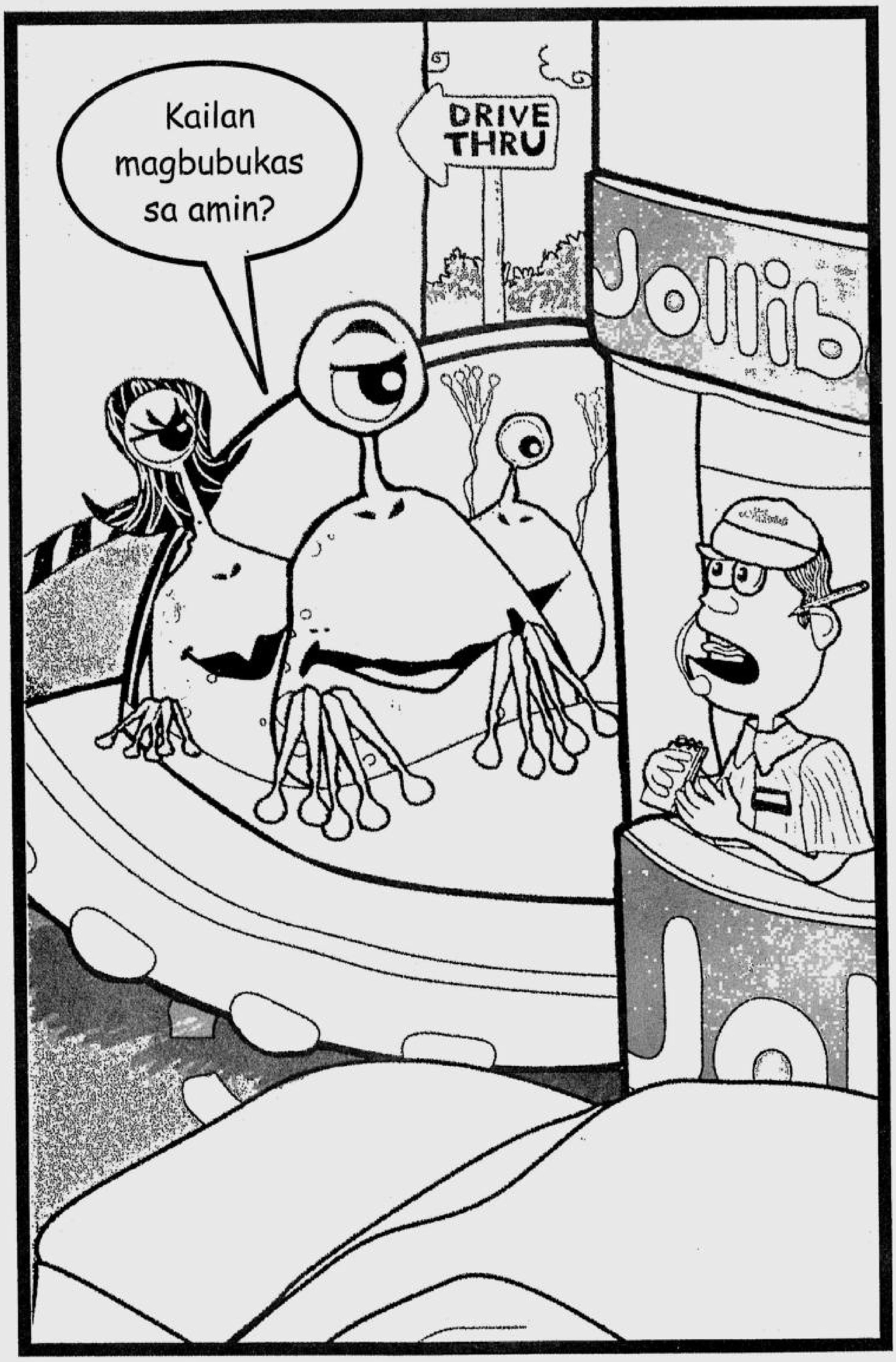
It's not that they don't love the stage. They do, actually but are fearful that making their living from it will just drain the passion.

"I'm working for Jesuit Communications and editing TV shows," Miren says. "If I say yes to a play, it has to be worth my while. And there are times I have to stay away from the theater because the pressure is just too much."

Paolo adds, "If you make theater your life, the competition gets very stiff. You end up doing roles you don't like because that's how you make your bread and butter. It's not fun anymore."

Until their next stage appearance, individually or as a couple, you can catch them in Rep's new comedy, where they say they will have fun—and bring the audience along for the ride.

Repertory Philippines' production of "The Owl and the Pussycat" will open on May 2 and run until the end of the month at William J. Shaw Theater, Edsa Shangri-La Plaza. Call 633-4821-25



Ang sarap ng may Jollibee na malapit sa inyo, ano?
Kaya naman patuloy kaming nagtatayo ng mga bagong stores. Mas madali nang maglanghap-sarap — so bee happy!

Visit our new stores: Morayta • Metropoint • AS Fortuna, Cebu • Landco Pacific Mall • Tandang Sora, Mindanao Ave. • Robinson's Starmills
Sta. Maria, Bulacan • Greenmeadows, Libis • Tabaco, Albay • LCC Metromall • Pagadian • Baclaran Terminal Plaza • G. Tuazon, Balic-Balic • Petron NLT, Marilao • Agoo, La Union

bee happy

"BATANG West Side"

'Batang West Side' wins top prize in Singapore filmfest

"I-SAN Special" by Mingmongkol Sonakul, Thailand

By Tikoy Aguiluz
Contributor

AFTER LINO Brocka's "Maynila sa Kuko ng Liwanag" made it to the list of the world's 150 best films, "Batang West Side" has made the Filipino proud once more by winning the top prize in the 15th Singapore International Film Festival (SIFF).

The award was announced by the Philippines' own Gary Valenciano during the Silver Screen Awards Ball, the gala event that closed the festival that was attended by 500 actors, directors, festival guests and Singapore's top film and television personalities.

Lav Diaz's five-hour opus bested 15 other entries from China, Japan, Korea, Turkey, Viet Nam, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India, Thailand, Taiwan and Hong Kong. His film won over the works of Tsai Ming Liang ("What Time Is There?," Taiwan, Cannes winner), Fruit Chan ("Hollywood Hong Kong," Hong Kong), Zhang Yang (China's new wave director of "Shower," "Quitting") and other wunderkinds from Korea, Thailand, etc.

After Brocka and Bernal, Philippine cinema is back on the map with the 5-hour Lav Diaz opus

"AWAY from Home"

After Brocka and Bernal, Philippine cinema is back on the map with "Batang" and the movie is expected to shine in other international filmfests.

The 15th SIFF is the most ambitious so far, featuring the most extensive selection of films yet—around 400 films were shown for 16 days.

"SEAFOOD," Special Jury Prize

"WHISPERING Sands" by Nan Achnas, Indonesia

Aside from the 15 films in competition, there were animation; award-winning documentaries focusing on globalization or the other face of globalization which is seldom seen; French, German, Canadian, Iranian, Mexican, and other award-winning films in the World Cinema program; independent American films, Digital Internet Shorts, British Cinema, and a retrospective of the films of the unknown Thai master filmmaker, Ratana Pestonji.

The Thai brought honor to his country's film industry in the '50s with "Santi- Veena," which won two awards in the Southeast Asian Film Festival in Tokyo in 1954. Pestonji's movie was the inspiration for the award-winning Thai film, "Tears of the Black Tiger" (Cinemanila 2001).

"QUITTING" by Zhang Yang, China

"Bayaning Third World" by Mike de Leon and "Tuhog" by Jeffrey Jeturian were shown out of competition at the festival. The reclusive De Leon surprised everyone by showing up and attending the screening of his film. But he will always be the Stanley Kubrick of Philippine cinema: inscrutable and reclusive. Doy del Mundo had to introduce the film and answer questions afterward.

The citation for "Batang West Side" said:

"A five-hour sprawling film with outlandish ambitions. 'Batang' is overlong. But it's a spunky, courageous film that begins as a metaphysical thriller and ends as a powerful exploration of the pain and despair of the Filipino diaspora, which mirrors the overwhelming challenges for a dysfunctional family as well as for this troubled nation."

Philip Cheah, SIFF programmer, wrote in the program catalog: "Though more often acknowledged as the longest Southeast Asian film ever made, Lav Diaz's 'Batang West Side' is equally a pertinent, biting examination of immigrant communities living in foreign countries. Diaz avoids the crime thriller or melodrama genre specifications and instead delivers a taut portrait of the various people who were in Harana's life. The film explodes myths around the hardworking immigrant and instead delves into the dark, hard realities of dysfunctional families. In its entirety, it is littered with difficult questions about the American dream among immigrants, and first generation youth who grapple with questions around their identity. 'Batang West Side' won the Best Actor Award at the Cinemanila International Film Festival, shared by four of its cast members, Joel Torre, Yul Servo, Arthur Acuña and Ruben Tizon. It also won the Netpac award."

Other citations

SFC Young Cinema Award: "Eliana, Eliana," Riri Riza, Indonesia (co-director of "Kuldesak," Cinemanila '99)

An edgy film from a first-time director who arrives by way of DV (digital video) filmmaking, "Eliana" is as much about a mother-daughter relationship as it is about an Indonesian's love-hate relationship with Jakarta; a gritty portrait of a city caught between modernity and poverty.

Special Jury Prize: "Seafood," Zhu Wen, China

A directorial debut that also rides the crest of the DV revolution, "Seafood" presents a taut drama set in Beidaihe, the resort town for the Chinese political elite. A suicidal prostitute is instructed to love life by an authoritarian and rapist cop. This combative encounter offers us a rare glimpse into the troubled psyche of contemporary China.

Best Director: Semih Kaplanoglu, "Away From Home," Turkey

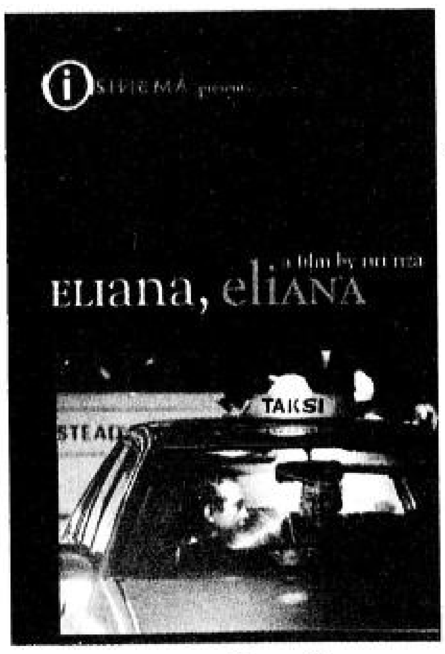
Turkey's wartime past meets its globalized present in this well-crafted directorial debut. The three characters include a Turkish yuppie about to emigrate to America, a drifting young Russian woman, and an old man returning to Turkey from Russia after half a century. The question of home is movingly posed through a story about arrival and departure,

"IN SEARCH of Afghanistan"

Bohol's finest and longest white sand beach is calling

All-new Tambuli is calling you.
To the longest shoreline of white sand and clear waters in Bohol.
To spectacular dolphin and whale watching. To the premiere diving spot in the Philippines.
Tambuli calling is Bohol paradise waiting to be found. Rediscover the new **Tambuli Resorts**. Now.

BOHOL BEACH CLUB
BLUE SKY-SEA RESORT



youthful ambitions and nostalgia.

Best Actor: Jia Hongsheng, "Quitting," directed by Zhang Yang, China

In this engaging narrative feature, members of an acting family reenact the trauma of coping with the son's drug addiction. Jia Honsheng plays himself in this bold and raw examination of the human capacity for self-destruction and redemption.

Two jury members locked horns on who deserved the Best Actor prize: Joel Torre or Jia. The Chinese's powerful performance as a drug addict and a self-destructive actor who leads the viewer through an intense journey through hell eventually convinced the jury to vote in his favor. "Quitting" was in competition at the Venice International Film Festival 2001. Its director, Zhang, is in preproduction for a $10-million Sony Tri-Star film to be shot in China.

Best Actress: Dian Sastrowardoyo, "Whispering Sands," directed by Nan Achnas, Indonesia (codirector of "Kuldesak," Cinemanila '99), produced by Christine Hakim (Best Actress, "Leaf on A Pillow," Cinemanila '99)

An assured debut by a woman filmmaker, "Whispering Sands" brings vividly to life a young woman's coming-of-age story in the stark, gorgeously photographed surreal landscape of northern Java. Among shifting sands, unpredictable wars and exploitative sex, the will to survive is as stubborn as a mother's love for her daughter, played here so endearingly by Dian Sastrowardoyo.

The Netpac (Network for the Promotion of Asian Cinema)/Fipresci Award: "Eliana, Eliana," by Riri Riza, Indonesia

Citation: This film is an intimate and restrained exploration of mother-daughter relations that uses the digital-cinema medium to reflect an authentic and ground-level experience of urban life.

Special Mention: "I-San Special" by Mingmongkol Sonakul, Thailand

Citation: For its uncompromising stance and unconventional portrayal of modern Thailand; and the conflicts and deconstructions of multiple realities and genres such as the soap opera, the road movie and Thai pop culture.

Critics Prize: "Lost," by Amir Muhammad, Malaysia

Citation: An Internet-specific portrait of the humorous, Kafkaesque interactions of individual identity and bureaucratic indifference.

Audience Prize: "In Search of Afghanistan," by Melvinder Kanth and Ismail Ishak, Singapore

Singapore short films

Best Film: "The Call Home"

This film offers a glimpse into the life of Indian guest workers—an aspect of Singaporean society rarely revealed on film and is bravely exploited here.

Special Jury Prize: "Eve of Adha"

This is a downbeat tale about a Muslim man's gritty survival in Australia.

Best Director: "The Secret Heaven"

A young girl's allergy to piano lessons makes her yearn for heaven. An amusing look at childhood's drama and fears.

Special Achievement Award: "15"

A postmodern montage of Singaporean kids and their obsessions with video games, hip hop, MTV and body-piercing.

Jurors

Members of the festival jury were: Evans Chan (Hong Kong), director of "Map of Sex and Love" (Cinemanila 2001); James Lee (Malaysia), director, "Lips to Lips" and "Ah Beng Returns"; Li Yu (China), director, "Fish and Elephant"; Jeffrey Jeturian, (Philippines), director, Netpac awardee (Cinemanila '99); Abdul Nizam Abdul Hamid Khan (Singapore), director, "Datura" (Cinemanila 2000 entry); Kim Dong Ho (Korea), director, Pusan International Film Festival, (juror, Cinemanila 2000); Sudhir Nandgaonkar (India), festival director, Mumbai International Film Festival, secretary of the Fipresci (International Federation of Film Critics), secretary of the Film Journalists Society; Tikoy Aguiluz, director, Cinemanila; Chuck Stephens, West Coast editor of Filmmaker magazine and regular contributor to Film Comment (USA); Alfian Bin Saat (Singapore), one of Singapore's most promising poets and playwrights. His plays include "Fighting" and "Yesterday, My Classmate Died." He has a book of poems, "One Fierce Hour."

NOKIA
FREE
SMART
CELFONE

100 YEARS IN THE PHILIPPINES

A member of citigroup

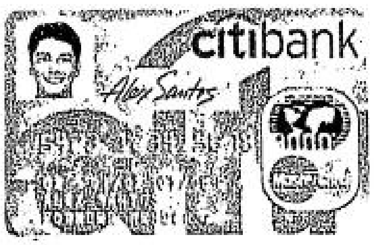
Apply for a Citibank card and get a FREE Nokia 3310

Get a FREE Nokia 3310 with every approved Citibank credit card.* Application period is from April 15 to July 15, 2002. Your free cellphone comes with a pre-approved Smart Gold Standard (Plan 600). Your monthly Smart cellphone fees will be automatically charged to your Citibank credit card for your convenience.

See application form inserts for more details.

*Applicable only to Citibank Silver MasterCard and VISA, Citibank Gold MasterCard and VISA, and Citibank Clear card.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1424, Series of 2002.



Call 423-3000
or visit www.citibank.com.ph

☑ Yes, I want a Citibank credit card!

Name

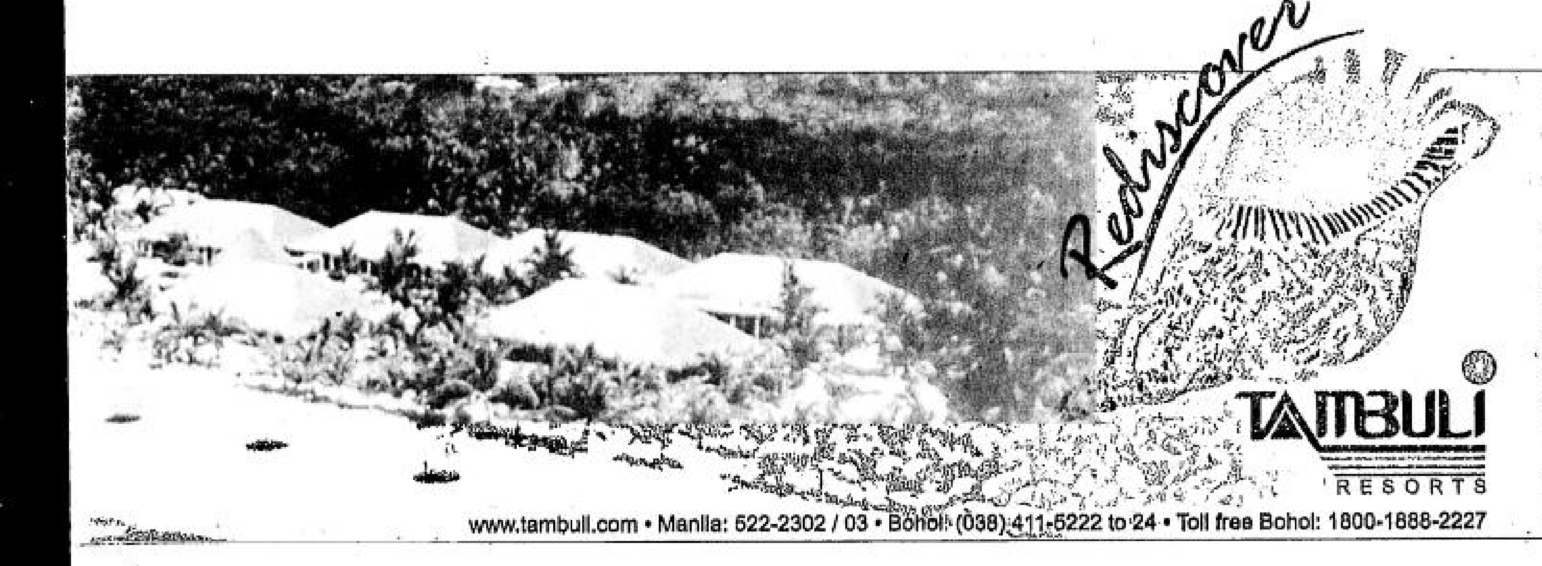
Contact Nos.

Preferred time to be called

PLEASE FAX TO 423-3888

SMART
Simply Amazing!

citibank



Tambuli 2002 Summer Packages

- Standard P5,500 net (single / twin)
  (Tambuli Beach Club East and Bohol Beach Club Standard Rooms)
- Superior Cebu P5,900 net (single / twin)
  (Tambuli Beach Club East and Cebu Beach Club Superior Rooms)
- Superior Bohol P6,900 net (single / twin) (Bohol Beach Club Superior Rooms)
- Deluxe P8,100 (single / twin) (Tambuli Beach Club West Deluxe Rooms)

Inclusions:

- 3 days / 2 nights accommodation
- Daily breakfast, one (1) lunch, one (1) dinner
- 15% discount on roundtrip transfers
- Discount on Supercat tickets (on specified trips)
- 10% discount on Club Aquasports facilities
- 20 minutes free use of kayak / canoe / pedalboat / glass-bottom boat cruise (wherever applicable)

*** *Valid from April 1 - June 16, 2002*
*** *Open to local residents, expatriates and balikbayans only*
*** *Not valid for group conference / seminar bookings*

www.tambuli.com • Manila: 522-2302 / 03 • Bohol: (038) 411-5222 to 24 • Toll free Bohol: 1800-1888-2227

ISHMAEL Bernal's "Nunal sa Tubig"

LAURICE Guillen's "Tanging Yaman"

Critics to name 10 best Pinoy films of the last 30 years

By Lito B. Zulueta

Great Filipino movies were made in the past that formed singular guideposts in the development of Filipino culture and even global culture

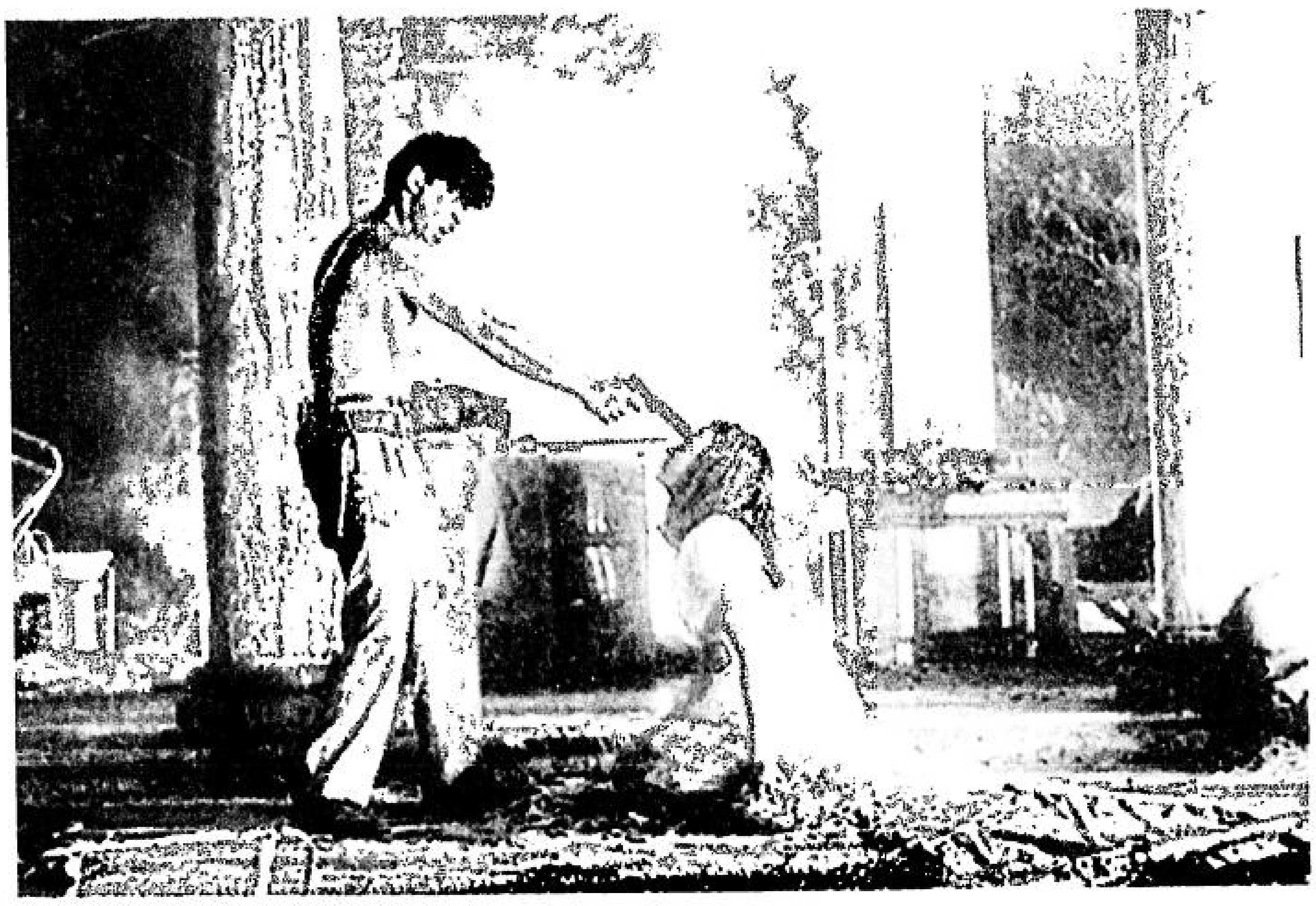
THE INCLUSION of Lino Brocka's 1975 classic, "Maynila sa mga Kuko ng Liwanag," in a recent greatest-list of world cinema reaffirms the value and strength of Philippine cinema. The question is, why only "Maynila"?

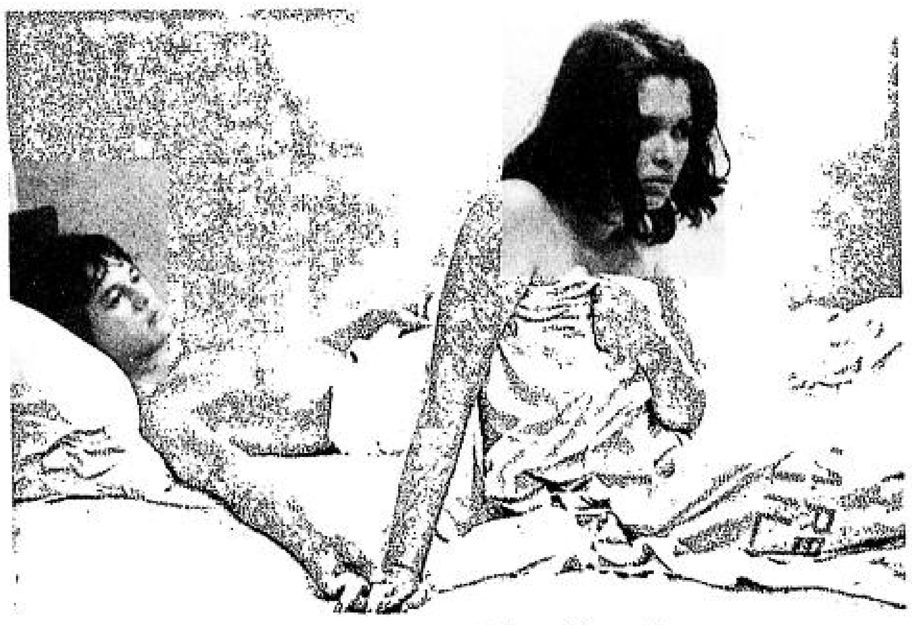
For a commercial film industry that is perhaps the oldest in Asia and still one of the most vibrant in the world, Philippine cinema is woefully underrepresented in the list. Where are the Gerry de Leons, the Lamberto Avellanas, the Manuel Siloses, the Ishmael Bernals and the Mike de Leons?

The answer is that they are nowhere, consigned to oblivion by the failings of our film archiving (disastrous in the case of Gerry de Leon whose movies are, by all accounts, equal to the genius of Eisenstein and Hitchcock, but which have been irretrievably lost to the elements), film appreciation (Silos' "Biyaya ng Lupa" remains a moving and poignant testament to the Filipinos' agrarian roots, but it is ignored by our young people who feed on the lotus of MTV, texting, PlayStation and Hollywood theme-park entertainment) and movie culture (rampant commercialism has banished our best filmmakers; toward the end of their unfortunately short lives, Brocka and Bernal were virtual exiles in the cinema that they had elevated in the eyes of the world; until he made "Bayaning Third World" in 1999 using his own money, Mike de Leon had shut himself from the industry for more than a decade because he had refused to be devoured by the system).

All of these failings can be subsumed under one heading: our short memory. It is the same virus that infects our kid-gloves treatment of the Marcoses, the cavalier way with which we topple or trivialize our ancient churches and colonial structures, our eager, uncritical rush to embrace the new. It shows in our failure to put events and developments in their proper context.

The younger generations don't have a past to refer to because the infrastructure of memory is simply not there. In contrast, they have an encyclopedia of knowledge about Hollywood and western culture: they can summon statistics at the mere flick of a finger, they can tell you who won what Oscar in what year, they can tell you what movie is ruling the American box office and what record is No. 1 in the Billboard charts. Ask them to write about their favorite personality and they will point to an American pop icon and download information about that figure from the Net.


PEQUE Gallaga's 1981 epic, "Oro Plata Mata"


LINO Brocka's 1975 classic, "Maynila sa mga Kuko ng Liwanag"

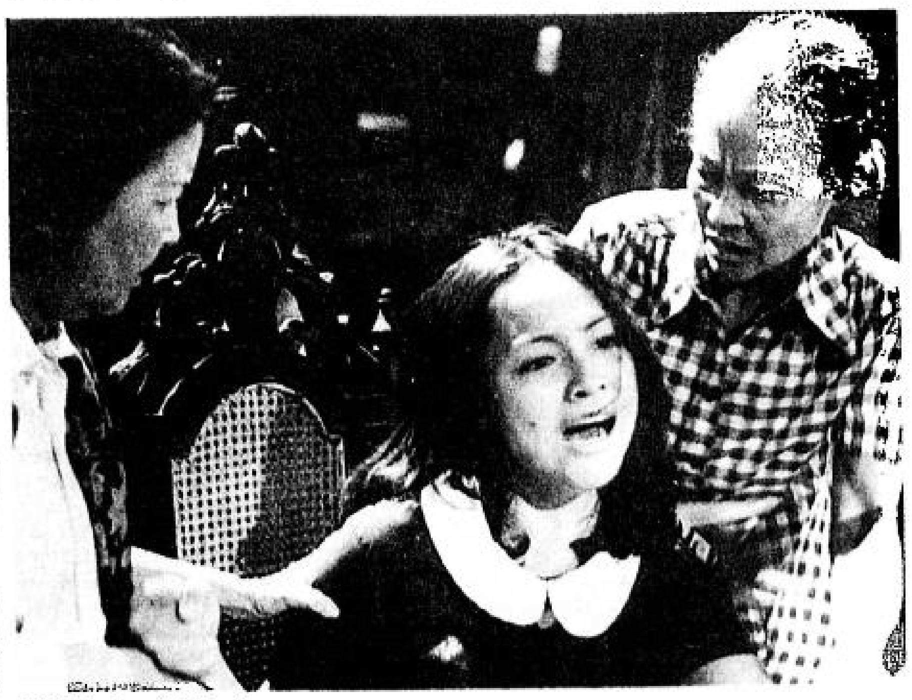
Since the turn of the 20th century, movies have become a key component of popular culture, a means to perpetuate culture. But paradoxically for countries like the Philippines, they have also become a means to isolate and even smother culture. The sheer reproducibility of films means the movie industry in the West can drown other cinemas that do not have the financial strength to reproduce, perpetuate, conserve and multiply (in downstream forms) their movies.

As a result, the technological advantage of film—its capacity for reproduction—has become the waterloo of Philippine cinema. Philippine cinema has simply failed to reproduce its best films. The result: in a listing of the 150 greatest films of all time, only one movie is Filipino.

But what Philippine cinema lacks in financial strength and technological advantage can be made up for by memory. Again and again our film critics and educators should refer to the hallmarks of Philippine cinema if only to remind the younger generations that

CRITICS/ p.D7

EDDIE Romero's masterpiece, "Ganito Kami Noon, Paano Kayo Ngayon?"


MIKE de Leon's "Itim"

Critics to name 10 best Pinoy films of the last 30 years

From page D6

great Filipino movies were made in the past that formed singular guideposts in the development of Filipino culture and even global culture. It is hoped that by appreciating such guideposts, the younger generations will be emboldened to make the movies that will consolidate the reputation of Philippine movies in world cinema.

Defining moments

To help in this enterprise of remembrance, the Manunuri ng Pelikulang Pilipino will name the 10 best Filipino movies in the last 30 years on May 11, when it hands out the annual Gawad Urian. The occasion is auspicious. The Manunuri is celebrating its 25th founding anniversary this year. In naming the best movies of the last 25-30 years, it is really choosing the movies that best define a generation of Filipinos as well as a colorful, even tumultuous period in the history of our nation.

Moreover, in extending the choice back to 30 years, the Manunuri, which was established in 1977, pays homage to the second golden age of Philippine cinema (the first was in the era of Gerry de Leon and Lamberto Avellana) that started in the early '70s with Brocka's "Tubog sa Ginto" and Bernal's "Pagdating sa Dulo," and that reached its peak in 1976 with Brocka's "Insiang," Bernal's "Nunal sa Tubig," Eddie Romero's "Ganito Kami Noon, Paano Kayo Ngayon?" and Mike de Leon's "Itim."

THE
URIAN
ANTHOLOGY
1980-1989
EDITED AND INTRODUCED BY NICANOR G. TIONGSON

The list, which will be known on awards night as Pinilakang Gawad Urian, will be the outcome of a poll of past and current Manunuri members. Presiding over the survey is Manunuri founding chair Bienvenido Lumbera, the 1993 Ramon Magsaysay laureate for journalism, literature and creative communication arts.

Although the survey results have not been consolidated yet, let me hazard certain movies that may figure in the final selection. Foremost would be "Maynila." Brocka's 1975 movie is arguably his masterpiece. With its sprawling social consciousness, its unforgettable characters that are both archetypes and full-blooded characters, its searing images and its poignant lyricism, it remains the finest expression of Filipino neo-realist cinema.

Then there is Brocka's 1974 "Tinimbang Ka Ngunit Kulang." Some critics have said that the movie has not aged well. Others point to the alleged crudity of the narrative. But recent screenings on cable TV show that the movie, warts and all, remains an engaging work of a master of a social critic. Its scale is big, its well-presented details of small-town secrets and hypocrisies painfully funny and revealing of the Filipino psyche. In addition, one should never forget that more than any other movie in the 1970s, "Tinimbang" heralded that Filipino cinema had come of age. Its startling commercial success in 1974 showed that Filipino taste had matured and the optimism about the promise of local cinema was not unfounded.

"Insiang" became a defining point for Third World cinema when it was shown during the Director's Fortnight in the 1978 Cannes Film Festival. Recently restored by the French government, the movie is an intense character study that shows not only the psychology of a victim, but also the soul of a city. The economy of its narrative, the forcefulness of the performances of Hilda Koronel and Mona Lisa, and the beauty of the cinematography of Conrado Balthazar (Brocka's Sven Nykvist) have hardly been affected by time. It is a classic in any one's list.

Other Brocka movies that may figure in the final selection are "Bayan Ko: Kapit sa Patalim," the moving labor drama; and "Ora Pro Nobis," the controversial movie that made certain references to the Fr. Tulio Favali murder by anticommunist militia.

Poles apart

Bernal will almost surely be represented in the final selection by "Nunal sa Tubig." Like Brocka's "Tinimbang" and "Maynila," its scope is big—nothing less than the quiet death of a fishing town struggling amid industrialization and shifting social relationships. What differentiates it from Brocka's are its obliqueness, imagism and even intellectual sophistication.

The two directors really are poles apart. While Brocka is heart, Bernal is mind. While Brocka is passion, Bernal is intellectual rigor. Other Bernal films that may figure in the final list are "Himala," the damning miracle story (which I find derivative and even predictable); "Pagdating sa Dulo," the director's take on the madness of show business; "Manila by Night (City After Dark)," Bernal's Altmann-ian version of Brocka's "Maynila"; "Hinugot sa Langit," the abortion story; and "Wating," his last great film about the underworld.

Eddie Romero, a contemporary of Avellana and Gerry de Leon and a key figure in the first Golden Age of Philippine Cinema, will almost surely be represented by "Ganito Kami Noon." An epic on the construction of Filipino identity, the movie displays Romero's gift for biting dialogue, colorful characterization and detached camera work. It is unrepentantly hortatory and discursive without, however, losing or boring the audience.

Other Romero contenders would be the sex drama "Sino'ng Kapiling, Sino'ng Kasiping," the underworld thriller "Banta ng Kahapon" and the epic "Agila."

Mike de Leon, the genius of technique and material, will almost surely be represented by the horror masterpiece "Itim" (the Asian Film Festival Best Picture in 1978), the memorable "Sister Stella L" (about a nun's wrenching social coming of age) and the antifascist "Batch '81" and "Kisapmata." Shown recently on cable TV, these movies have withstood the wear and tear of time. Let us not forget 1999's "Bayaning Third World," De Leon's myth-shattering take on the national hero Jose Rizal.

Peque Gallaga's 1981 epic "Oro Plata Mata," arguably the best Filipino movie on the trauma of World War II, will surely be assayed at the final selection. Other Gallaga contenders are the controversial "Scorpio Nights" and "Unfaithful Wife," which, like Nagisa Oshima's movies, rewrote the rules on pornography.

Mario O'Hara is another director whose movies cannot be ignored when one makes a list of all-time great Filipino movies. Making a bid for him would be "Mortal," his 1975 debut about madness, which remains a hallmark in experimental cinema, "Tatlong Taong Walang Diyos," the other great Filipino film on World War II; "Fatima Buen," the scorching social drama; and "Bulaklak ng City Jail," the intense prison drama.

The movies of Gil Portez will have to be in contention because, like it or not, they remain guideposts in independent cinema as he remains our most resilient and accomplished independent director. Up for consideration by the critics are "Tiket, Mama, Tiket, Ale, Sa Linggo ang Bola," his satirical but poignant take on the Filipinos' sweepstakes mentality; "Andrea: Paano ba ang Maging Isang Ina?," about a communist woman guerrilla, and "Saranggola," his 1999 small film with a big heart about a boy who witnesses his cop-father shooting down another boy.

The cause of Chito Roño, another master of technique and material, will be defended by such films as the sex drama "Takaw Tukso" and the 1998 feminist testament "Bata, Bata, Paano Ka Ginawa?" The highly realistic cinema of Tikoy Aguiluz cannot be discounted, and a number of his movies—such as "Boatman" and "Segurista"—deserve the critics' consideration. Joel Lamangan may be ably represented in the final list by such movies as "Flor Contemplacion," "Bayad Puri" and "Bakit May Kahapon Pa?" Jose Javier Reyes may be represented by "Makati Girls," "Pare Ko" and even last year's little known small but great film, "Minsan May Isang Puso."

Feminist cinema will be represented by the movies of Laurice Guillen ("Kasal-Kasalan," "Salome" and "Tanging Yaman") and Marilou Diaz Abaya ("Brutal," "Moral," "Karnal" and "José Rizal").

The movies of these directors have defined the greatness of Philippine cinema and it is only worthy that they be celebrated, memorialized and perpetuated.

The Pinilakang Gawad Urian will be given during the 25th Gawad Urian on May 11, 6 p.m., at the Araneta Coliseum. Produced by Tape, the awards ceremonies will be broadcast live over Channel 9

BRAIN SURGEON
PHYSICS
Molding minds is what teachers always think about.
HEART SPECIALIST.
Caring for students is in the heart of every teacher.
ARCHITECT.
Building character is the foundation of every teacher.
DIWA Scholastic Enhancement Materials • DIWA Textbooks
DIWA LEARNING SYSTEMS INC
DIWA
DIWA LEARNING SYSTEMS INC

SM MEGAMALL

3 DAYS ONLY
MEGA
SALE
May 3 • 4 • 5
10am-10pm

up to 50% off on great selections mallwide

PER DTI-NCR PERMIT NO A3-260 SERIES OF 2002

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

For feedback, text us at (0918)917-5026 or email us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

LIFESTYLE

Why has it come to this?

By Alex Y. Vergara
Photos by Dennis Sabangan

IT is probably hard for 21st-century yuppies and mall rats to imagine that Escolta, the now grimy street in the heart of Santa Cruz, was once the country's premiere shopping and financial center.

Did you know, for instance, that there were two turn-of-the-lost-century versions of Rustan's where our fashionable great grandparents did their shopping back then? La Puerta del Sol and Estrella del Norte—literally from the sun to the stars—used to occupy opposite ends of the celebrated street. Yes, pre-War Escolta was the place to be.

When centralized air-conditioning was just a novelty in the country, Crystal Arcade, where the Manila Stock Exchange was housed, had a spruced up and air-conditioned driveway. The building was sold to the Philippine National Bank in the early 1950s and henceforth was torn down to give way to Carlos Arguelles' world-class high-rise, which still stands to this day.

Considered the first of its kind in the country, the once fully air-conditioned building is now the home of the City Colleges of Manila. PNB moved to a bigger property on Roxas Boulevard several years ago.

Also considered way ahead of its time, the William J. Burke building has managed to survive the ravages of the changing seasons. Apart from being the first of its kind to be built from poured cement, the office building also holds the distinction of having the first elevator in the country. Isabelo Tampinco designed its moldings.

Just a shadow

Indeed, besides hosting a number of upscale bazaars and movie houses, the street had once been a repository of Filipino architecture at its finest. Despite the passage of time, neglect and ignorance, Escolta has managed to retain a few of its gems by famed Filipino architects such as Andres Luna de San Pedro and Juan Nakpil.

Sadly, however, the street is now a shadow of its old self, as Carlos Celdran, development director of Heritage Conservation Society, put it during a walking tour as he regaled us with stories and naughty asides on the Escolta of old.

Lyric, which used to exclusively screen Warner Bros. Pictures, is but a memory with St. J Square now in its place. Its rival and once the sole medium of Columbia Pictures, the now decrepit Capitol, is dying a slow death. If it goes the way of Lyric, Capitol will bring down with it one of Juan Nakpil's best works and Galo Ocampo and Vittorio Edades' minimalist relief.

WHY/ p.E2

> Escolta, the now grimy street in the heart of Santa Cruz, was once Manila's financial district and high-end shopping center

Health & Beauty

SKIN AND BODY CARE

THE AROMA THERAPY CENTER
salon•spa•skincenter•slimming
5/F Bldg. B SM Megamall ☎ 637.5411-12
2/F Garden Sq. Bldg. Greenbelt ☎ 812.9002

SM MEGA SALE! UP TO 50% OFF
• MAY 3-5, 2002
ALL AROMA THERAPY SERVICES & PRODUCTS

Get Rid of Varicose & Spider Veins w/o Surgery
Body Accents Cosmetic Surgery-Skin & Varicose Vein Treatment Center
998-1010, 997-9576, 687.5392
Free Consultation!!!

BODYMODE
WEIGHT LOSS MANAGEMENT & FACIAL CENTER
TELS: 752-6646 817-2834
4/F RCI BLG., 105 RADA ST. LEGASPI VILL., MAKATI CITY

50% TO 70% DISCOUNT
- Medical Weight Management
- Facial Treatment
- Skin & Body Treatment
- Detoxification Massage
- Physical Therapy Cases

BODY WELLNESS
AROMATHERAPY & REFLEXOLOGY
For Men and Women
"Give your body the break it deserves"
Tel. 372-3403

Jan Hentel
Facial & Aromatherapy Center
842-9976 / 98

25% DISCOUNT
- Intensive Facial Treatment
- Specific Skin & Body Care
- Non-Surgical Facelifting
See & Experience The Difference...

INCH LOSS PROGRAM
NO EXERCISE PILLS INJECTION OPERATION
HOTLINE: 772-2659

20% DISCOUNT ON ALL SLIMMING PROGRAM

Power Peel
Face & Body Skin Care Clinic
TELEFAX: 413-7459

50% DISCOUNT ON ALL Power Peel
- SKIN PROGRAMS
- WHOLE BODY BLEACH

REMBRANDT SPA
REMBRANDT HOTEL
#26 T. MORATO EXT, Q.C.
☎ 373-3333 LOC. 700/701

MINI JOURNEY PACKAGE
REG. PRICE P 1,350.00
NOW P 1,210.00
THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE, SCALP TREATMENT, AROMAPLASTY FACIAL

Wild On White sand
Pink Patio RESORT BORACAY
Valid until May 31, 2002

	SUPERIOR ROOM	DELUXE ROOM
TWIN SHARING	P3,735.00/person	P4,285.00/person
Extra night w/breakfast	P 1,590.00/	P 1,670.00/
TRIPLE SHARING	P3,076.00/person	P3,445.00/person
Extra night w/breakfast	P 1,260.00/	P 1,446.00/

Package Includes: 3Days/2Nights AIRCON Room Accomodation ▪ Daily Set Breakfast Roundtrip Land/Sea Transfers via Island Star Express ▪ Welcome Drink ▪ Free Fruit Shake Free Rock Wall Climbing ▪ Free use of Swimming Pool and Jacuzzi

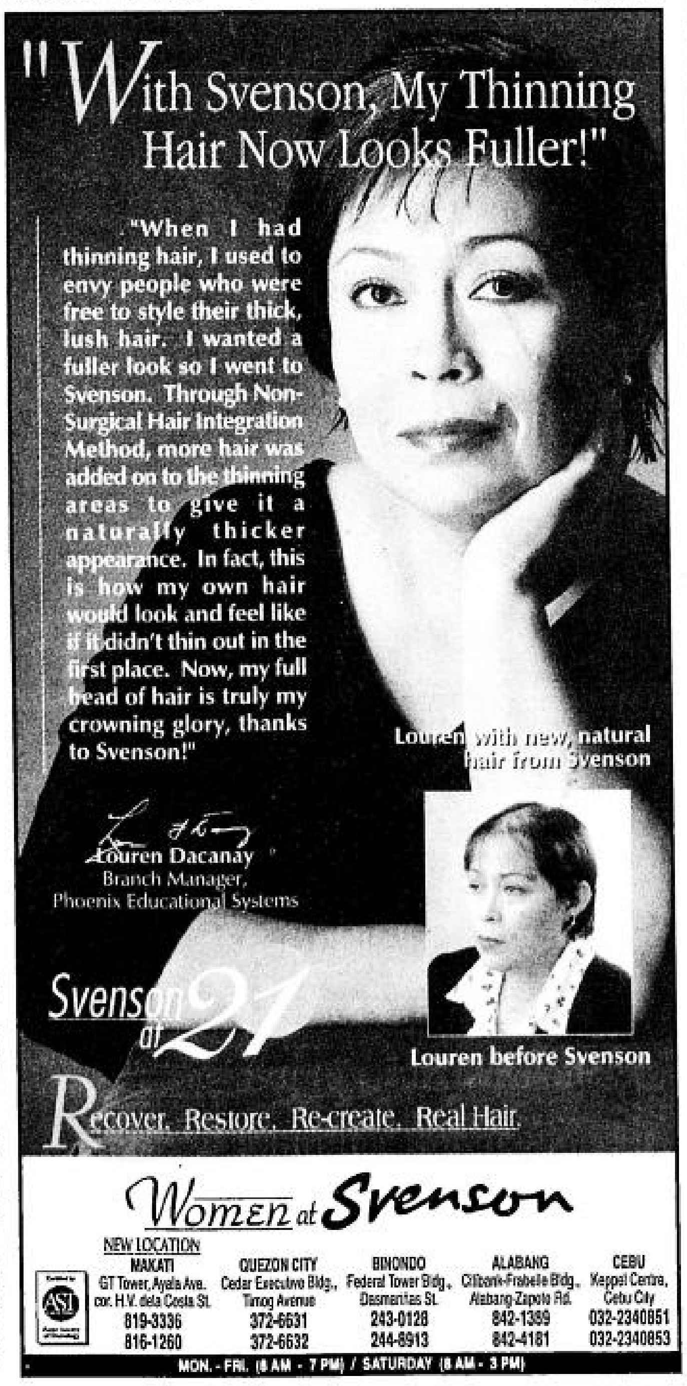
Call us at 846-2222 to 26 Email: sales@pinkpatio.com www.pinkpatio.com

Best value at the lowest rates

ACL Suites
Fully furnished apartelle units with:
•aircon•cable TV and telephone
•room service•free breakfast
•hot and cold showers
•24 hours security•parking

72 13th Avenue, Cubao, Quezon City
Call. 913-2123 to 25; 438-3264
Fax No. 438-3263
info@aclsuites.com.ph
www.aclsuites.com

Get your ACL Plus+ Card for a free stay !!



"With Svenson, My Thinning Hair Now Looks Fuller!"

"When I had thinning hair, I used to envy people who were free to style their thick, lush hair. I wanted a fuller look so I went to Svenson. Through Non-Surgical Hair Integration Method, more hair was added on to the thinning areas to give it a naturally thicker appearance. In fact, this is how my own hair would look and feel like if it didn't thin out in the first place. Now, my full head of hair is truly my crowning glory, thanks to Svenson!"

Louren Dacanay
Branch Manager,
Phoenix Educational Systems

Louren with new, natural hair from Svenson

Louren before Svenson

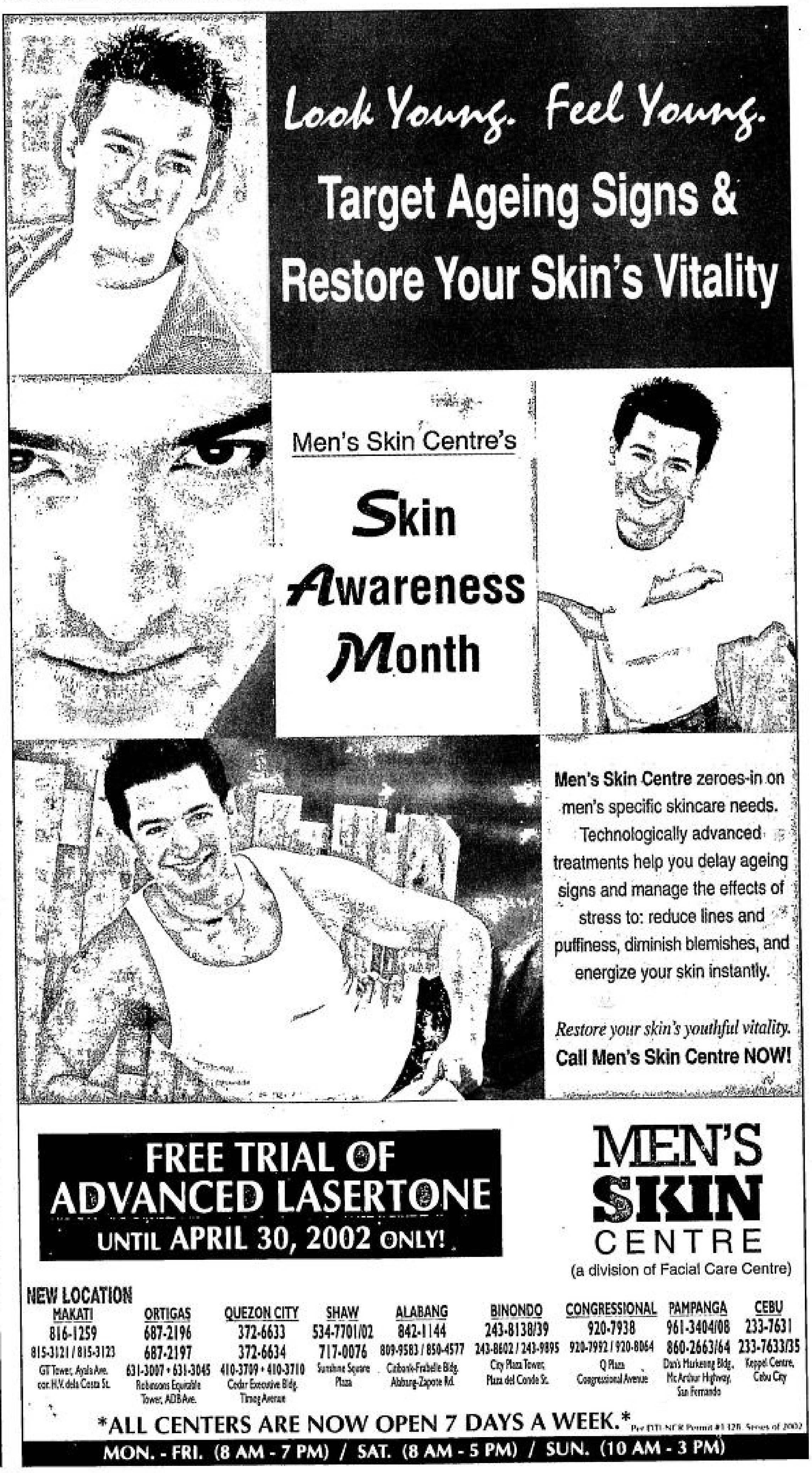
Svenson at 21

Recover. Restore. Re-create. Real Hair.

Women at Svenson

NEW LOCATION MAKATI	QUEZON CITY	BINONDO	ALABANG	CEBU
GT Tower, Ayala Ave. cor. H.V. dela Costa St.	Cedar Executive Bldg., Timog Avenue	Federal Tower Bldg., Dasmariñas St.	Citibank-Frabelle Bldg., Alabang-Zapote Rd.	Keppel Centre, Cebu City
819-3336	372-6631	243-0128	842-1389	032-2340851
816-1260	372-6632	244-8913	842-4181	032-2340853

MON. - FRI. (8 AM - 7 PM) / SATURDAY (8 AM - 3 PM)



Look Young. Feel Young.
Target Ageing Signs & Restore Your Skin's Vitality

Men's Skin Centre's Skin Awareness Month

Men's Skin Centre zeroes-in on men's specific skincare needs. Technologically advanced treatments help you delay ageing signs and manage the effects of stress to: reduce lines and puffiness, diminish blemishes, and energize your skin instantly.

Restore your skin's youthful vitality.
Call Men's Skin Centre NOW!

FREE TRIAL OF ADVANCED LASERTONE
UNTIL APRIL 30, 2002 ONLY!

MEN'S SKIN CENTRE
(a division of Facial Care Centre)

NEW LOCATION MAKATI	ORTIGAS	QUEZON CITY	SHAW	ALABANG	BINONDO	CONGRESSIONAL	PAMPANGA	CEBU
816-1259	687-2196	372-6633	534-7701/02	842-1144	243-8138/39	920-7938	961-3404/08	233-7631
815-3121 / 815-3123	687-2197	372-6634	717-0076	809-9583 / 850-4577	243-8602 / 243-9895	920-7992 / 920-8064	860-2663/64	233-7633/35
GT Tower, Ayala Ave. cor. H.V. dela Costa St.	631-3007 • 631-3045 Robinsons Equitable Tower, ADB Ave.	410-3709 • 410-3710 Cedar Executive Bldg. Timog Avenue	Sunshine Square Plaza	Citibank-Frabelle Bldg. Alabang-Zapote Rd.	City Plaza Tower, Plaza del Conde St.	Q Plaza Congressional Avenue	Dan's Murkeeng Bldg. McArthur Highway, San Fernando	Keppel Centre, Cebu City

ALL CENTERS ARE NOW OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK. Per DTI-NCR Permit #1328, Series of 2002
MON. - FRI. (8 AM - 7 PM) / SAT. (8 AM - 5 PM) / SUN. (10 AM - 3 PM)

ACSAT
ASIAN COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

ENROLL NOW!

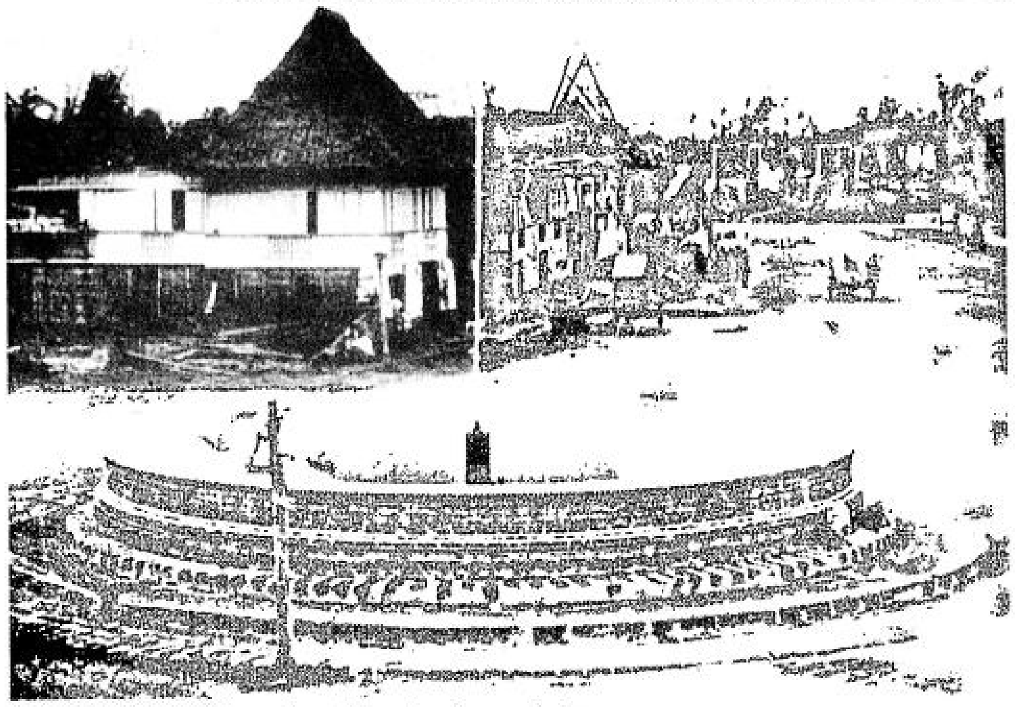
ALABANG Tel. Nos.: (02)861-5371 to 79 E-mail: acsatalabang@hotmail.com
BAYAWAN Tel. Nos.: (035)531-0260; 225-4804 E-mail: acsat02@mozcom.com
CAGAYAN DE ORO Tel. Nos.: (08822)72493; (088)857-3745 E-mail: acsatcdo@philcom.com.ph
CUBAO Tel. Nos.: (02)912-3236; 912-3239 E-mail: acsatcubao@yahoo.com
LOWER ANTIPOLO Tel. Nos.: (02)681-5827; 681-5608 E-mail: acsatla@hotmail.com
BALIUAG Tel. Nos.: (044)673-2021; 766-4570 E-mail: acsatbal@digitelone.com
CABANATUAN Tel. Nos.: (044)463-3318; 463-4144 E-mail: acsatcab@digitelone.com
CALOOCAN Tel. Nos.: (02)366-7221; 366-7223 E-mail: acsatcaloocan@hotmail.com
DUMAGUETE Tel. Nos.: (035)225-4714; 225-5941 E-mail: acsat03@mozcom.com
NOVALICHES Tel. Nos.: (02)416-3475; 936-9619 E-mail: acsatnova@yahoo.com

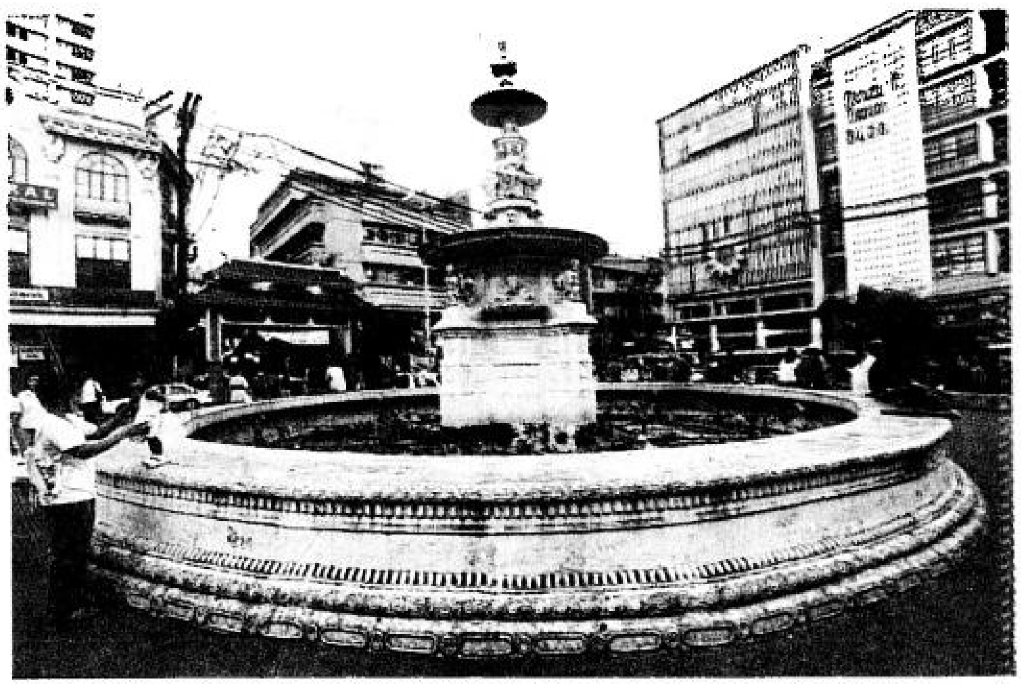
SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE
AFFORDABLE QUALITY EDUCATION

Microsoft Press · ISCET · University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate · Sun

COURSES OFFERED
BACHELOR'S DEGREES:
- BS Business Administration (BSBA)
  - Major in Computer Management
  - Major in Entrepreneurial Management
  - Major in Management
- BS Electronics & Computer Technology (BSECT)
- BS Office Administration (BSOA)
  - Major in Computer Systems & Office Management
- BS Computer Science (BSComSci)
- BS Computer Engineering (BSComEng)

TWO-YEAR COURSES:
- Electronics & Computer Technology (ECT)
- Computer Systems & Office Management (ComSys)
- Computer Science Technology (ComSci)
- Computer Engineering Technology (ComEng)


CARRIEDO fountain then minus the centerpiece sculpture


CARRIEDO fountain today at the Plaza Santa Cruz, its newest and hopefully final location.

Why has it come to this?

From page E1

Why has it come to this?

Neglect

"Heritage conservation is quite new in the Philippines," says Celdran. "Neglect by both government and citizens has led Escolta to its current state. It's our attitude of disposing things once we've exploited it to the nth degree. It extends from things like our trash, our land and the buildings we live in."

Fresh from its victory on the Mehan Garden controversy and after collaborating with its old foe—the Manila city government—in rehabilitating Plaza Lawton, HCS (tel. 521-2239, 522-2497 and [0917] 830-0293) is again conducting walking tours of Escolta, Intramuros and the CCP complex.

HCS was established in 1999 as a nonstock, nonprofit organization dedicated to the protection of Philippine heritage sites, structures and cultural landmarks through education and outreach programs. Their mandate includes legal, sustainable development initiatives and advocacy for urban and civic renewal through volunteer work.

"Heritage districts are physical embodiments of a nation's historical achievements," says Celdran in an attempt to explain the importance of saving Escolta and other areas from neglect and the wrecking ball. "Education is the key. We hope that our tours, media appearances, advocacy work and articles that our education bureau puts out address that issue."

We'll leave Celdran's juicy digressions for you to personally savor as we focus on Filipino architecture in a golden age when the country stood proud and loomed large among its neighbors.

Reflection

But first things first. Filipino architecture is perhaps a misnomer for the simple reason that there was, there is and perhaps there never will be one—with the exception, of course, of the *bahay kubo*. Escolta's old buildings, for instance, exhibit a mélange of influences—from Art Deco to Beaux-Arts and everything in between.

"It's a reflection of the Filipino penchant to festoon himself with everything, like a drag queen," says Celdran as our group entered the lofty entrance of the First United Building. "The elements that you see in these buildings are like jeepney art—pretty and a hodgepodge."

Like the Regina Building across it, the First United façade's is embellished with various artistic and architectural elements that betray various influences. The buildings reflect Filipino ingenuity or *abilidad* as well.

In the days when centralized air-conditioning was either impossible or too expensive to install, the likes of San Pedro designed buildings with high ceilings, huge windows and wall-to-wall vents above the doors to allow air to flow freely from all directions. Of course, Manila was less crowded and polluted back then. Trees and open spaces were more the norm than the exception.

"Manila is a seaside city that worked well during the Spanish and American times," says Celdran. "It's different today with buildings so close to each other and roads either made of concrete or cement. They absorb and trap the heat."

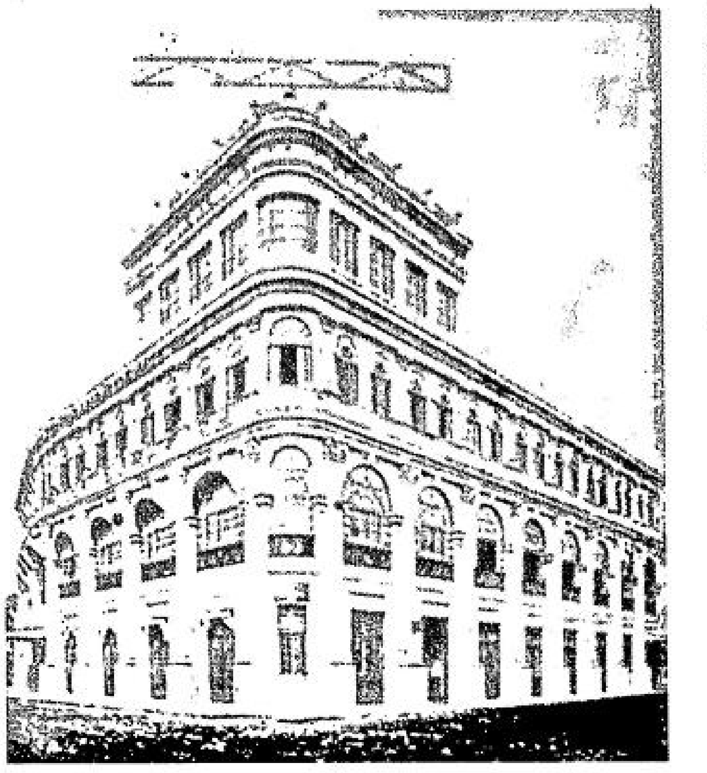
But why pine for the old when we can build new buildings with an Escolta feel? The answer is cost. Buildings then were low-rise, labor-intensive and built to the larger-than-life proportions of Americans.

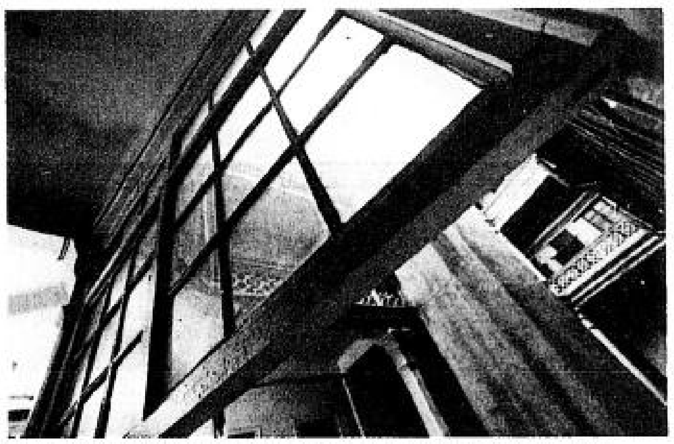
Skilled labor, for instance, was required to do all those etchings, which was fine when labor was cheap. Land prices and taxes have also become too prohibitive, forcing even developers with the best intentions to build staid high-rises. That's why it has become next to impossible to build similar structures today.

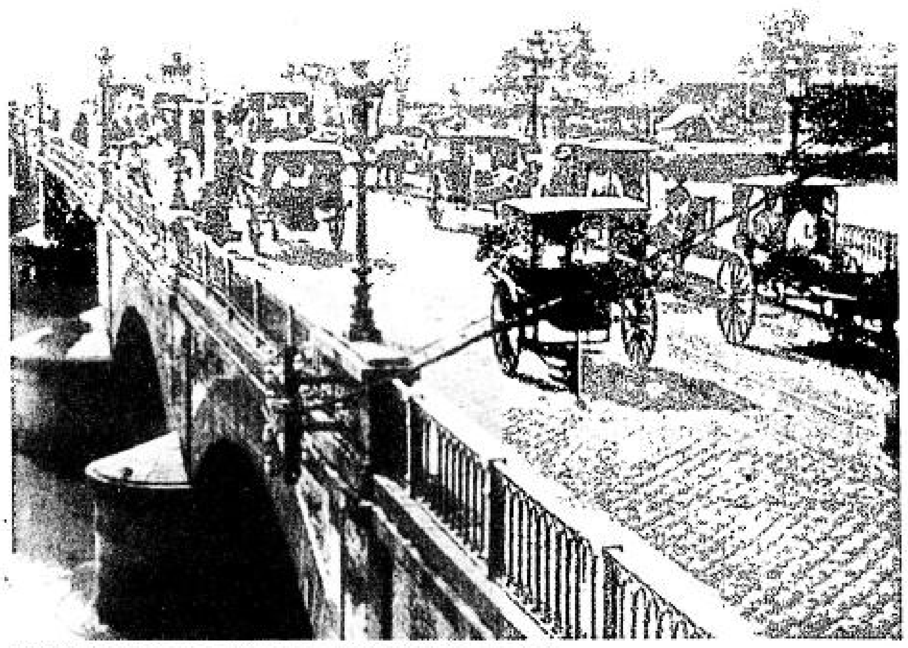
WHY/ p.E3

Escolta's old buildings exhibit a mélange of influences—from Art Deco to Beaux-Arts and everything in between

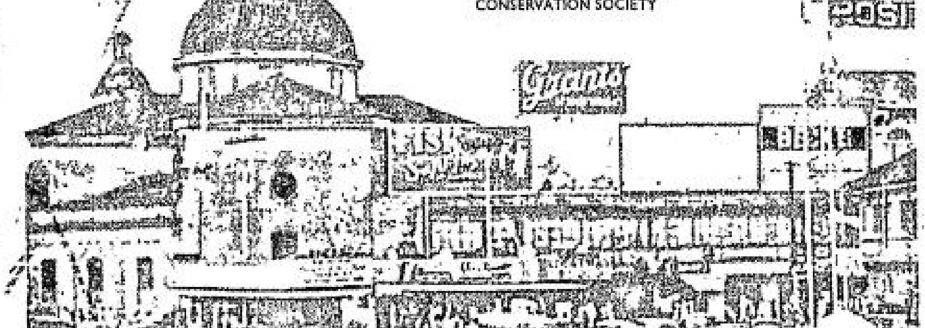
THE BUILDING manages to survive neglect and the city's encroaching decay.


EL Hogar Filipino during more pristine and prosperous times

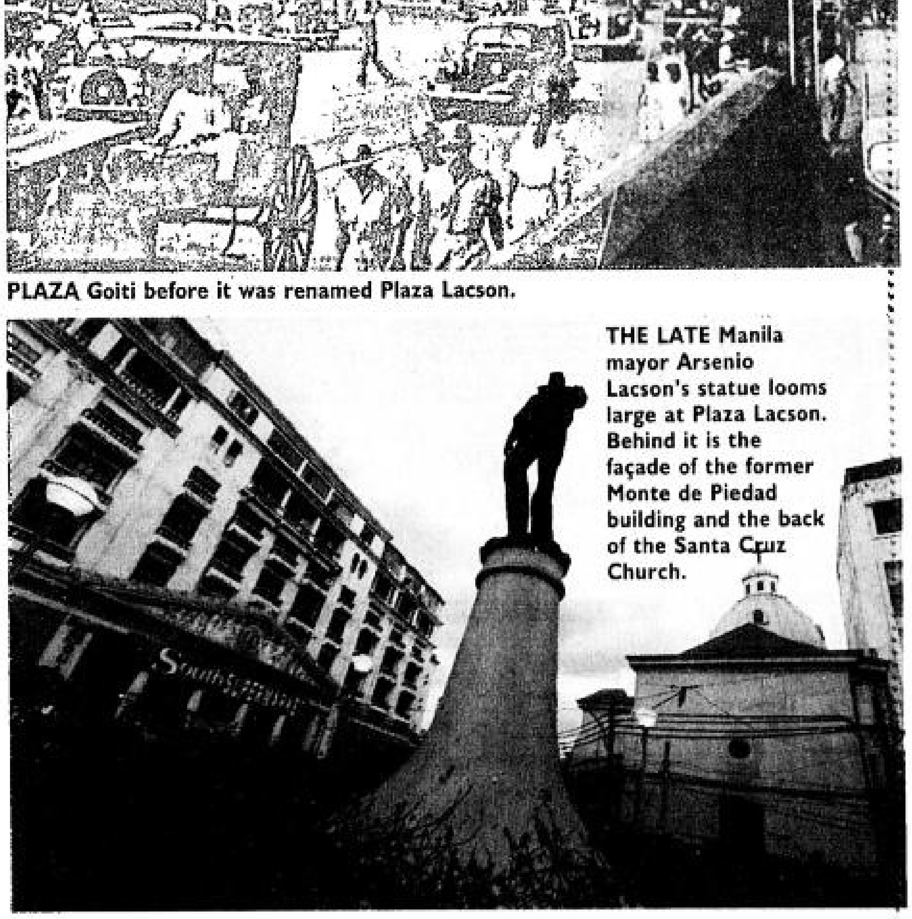

PATINAS of El Hogar's former glory can still be seen today.


FUENTE de España during the early American period

VINTAGE PHOTOS
COURTESY OF THE HERITAGE
CONSERVATION SOCIETY


PLAZA Goiti before it was renamed Plaza Lacson.

A DIMINISHED Jones Bridge after the war sans its statues by Juan Arellano.


THE LATE Manila mayor Arsenio Lacson's statue looms large at Plaza Lacson. Behind it is the façade of the former Monte de Piedad building and the back of the Santa Cruz Church.

THE GREAT DIVIDE. Carlos Celdran, HCS development director, conducts the society's Escolta tour while members of Manila's teeming masses to his right look on.

Why has it come to this?

From page E2

"Toilets, lighting fixtures and various stuff were all imported from Europe and America," Celdran explains. "It has now become too expensive to import these materials. Whereas proportions for windows and doors used to go by larger American dimensions, they now go by smaller Asian standards."

Bad feng shui

A walk down Escolta is also a stark reminder of how the city of Manila has sunk—literally and figuratively. The concrete road, for instance, is now several inches higher than sidewalks that lead to many of the old buildings. Feng shui masters have a mouthful to say about such a setup, and it could be summed up in one word: bad.

That's why the pieces of sculpture designed by Juan Arellano that used to adorn the Jones Bridge—or what was known as Fuente de España during Spanish times—have been moved to the Luneta.

"The bridge has sunk through the decades," says Celdran. "Had the statues remained there, they would have been half-submerged by now." The statues now flank the Rizal monument.

Old buildings in Escolta are also silent witnesses to the eventual decay of Manila, which began in earnest immediately after the war.

The Insular Life building between the boundary of Santa Cruz and Binondo, for instance, was nearly bankrupt after it paid for all the insurance policies of deceased Manileños. Thus, it was forced to move out of the area after the Development Bank of the Philippines bailed it out.

"One out of 10 Manileños died during the war," says Celdran. "Almost everyone was either bankrupt or too traumatized to live in Manila that they eventually left the city to live and do business elsewhere."

This development soon gave rise to new communities, such as Sta. Mesa Heights, Talayan, New Manila and eventually gated villages like Dasmariñas and Forbes Park. Businesses either closed shop or relocated their headquarters to Makati or Quezon City.

Former glory

One such casualty is the El Hogar Filipino, the once proud money-lending house responsible for financing such projects as the Jones Bridge and the Metropolitan Theater. Its once bright, airy courtyard is now dark, damp and, reeking of stale air, raw sewage and dreary human lives.

Where it used to house wealthy, perfumed and well-healed members of *alta sociedad*, it now plays host to tugboat operators and their unwashed and probably unlettered crew..

Patinas of its former glory can still be gleaned everywhere: high glass windows, French beaux-arts railings and a decrepit elevator shaft that was once set off by European grills. Both grills and elevator are now nowhere to be found.

Indeed, they don't make 'em anymore like they used to. Of course, the building by the Pasig River is still structurally sound.

The private elevator had been built for the chairman's exclusive use. The daily ride began from his private garage at the building's ground floor to his office on the top floor. A view of pristine Manila free from vagrants, traffic jams and crumbling buildings probably greeted him before he decided on the fates that would befall faceless companies, projects and people.

Eventually, war, decay and a sense of hopelessness haunted the city and took away the allure of a fashionable and cosmopolitan street named Escolta.

E-mail the author at avergara@inquirer.com.ph

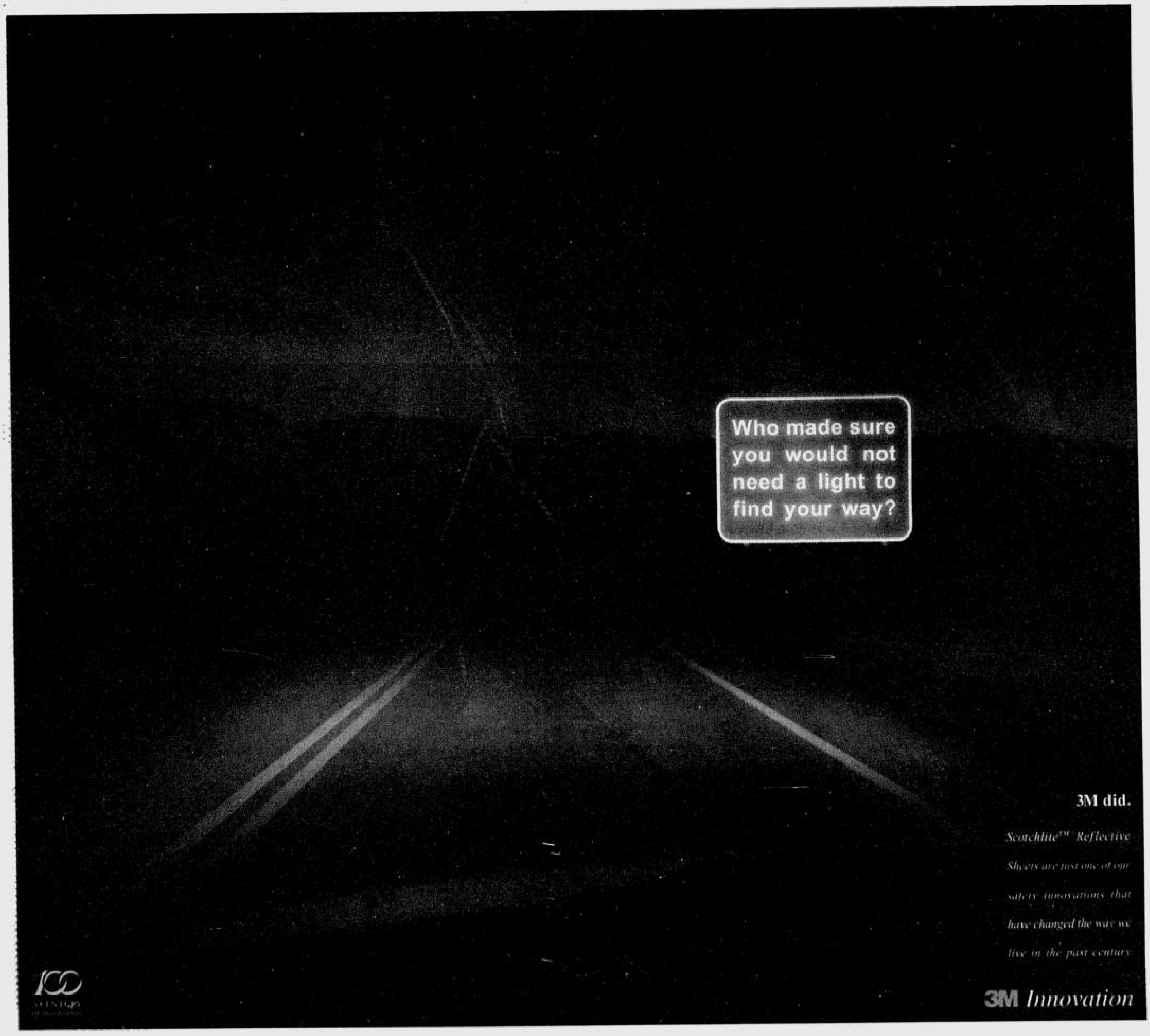
Sometimes, all it takes is a dark spot to spark an idea.

Not all success stories start out as a fairy tale. In fact, some, if not most of them began as complete failures.

Such is the story behind **Scotchlite**, a reflective material used to increase visibility at night or in low-light conditions. Nowadays, **Scotchlite** is widely used on street and highway signs but began as an experimental high visibility "paint" intended for U.S. highways. The project was undertaken by a 3M researcher who employed unusual methods to procure the materials needed for the experiment. These included dropping molten glass from an office window and retrieving the bits from the ground below in order to achieve the required size of glass beads. Crude? Maybe. But after months of experimentation, he and a team of researchers proudly displayed a prototype. Those months of hard work, however, only resulted in failure as their prototypes couldn't stand up to harsh weather and wear and tear. This wasn't the end of the road, however, since they refocused their research to applying the material to signs and other vertical surfaces. This move meant the birth of **Scotchlite** as we know it today.

Interestingly, it has found its way into the fashion, marine and medical fields; and our research teams haven't stopped looking for new ways to put **Scotchlite** to good use. So the next time you see a reflective strip, you'll know who thought of it first. **3M did**

ADVT



Who made sure you would not need a light to find your way?
3M did.
Scotchlite™ Reflective Sheets are just one of our safety innovations that have changed the way we live in the past century
3M Innovation

JAIME Laya, Mexican Ambassador Enrique Hubbard and Thai Ambassador Busba Bunnag

SAUDI Ambassador Saleh Mohammed Al-Ghamdi, British Consul-General Ian Charles Sargeant, Rosemarie Arenas and Helmut Gaisberger

Artist's 'unforgettable' moments with celebrities in unique show

DIPLOMATIC SWIRL

By Amiga

MATTHIAS **Wahner**, German artist-photographer, presents a unique idea: he shares unforgettable moments with **Brigitte Bardot, Fidel Castro** and **Yasser Arafat** and **Yoko Ono,** among other international celebrities—in photographs, anyway. Through a process of "electronic image processing," Wahner has also inserted himself into historic moments, such as the Vietnam War and the Kennedy Texas motorcade. And why not? The '60s and '70s were his era, too.

Director **Wilfried Scheffler** of the Goethe Institut and Hiraya Gallery presented Wahner in the novel exhibit, "Man Without Qualities." German Ambassador **Herbert Jess** opened the exhibit on April 13. These are not your usual photographs for calendars and stationery, so drop by the gallery to see something more innovative.

* * *

Just to hear French Ambassador **Gilles Chouraqui** sing the unofficial French National Anthem, "La Vie en Rose," was worth the wait for the dinner tendered by hostess with the mostest **Baby Arenas** and Mandarin GM **Helmut Gaisberger** on the eve of the ambassador's departure for his new post in Strasbourg as permanent French ambassador to the Council of Europe.

GERMAN Ambassador Herbert Jess and Matthias Wahner BETOY JOHNSON

Serenaded by **Jay Cayuca** with a violin with an electronic keyboard attachment, the 22 guests thoroughly enjoyed an elegant fare at the hotel's Fontaine Room of foie gras, roasted Chilean sea bass on mashed celery potatoes with Pommery mustard, goat cheese ravioli with essence of chicken... But you get the general idea. To ease my guilt, I went from a Brut Zero to a Talus Merlot.

It wasn't only the guest of honor who sung. The hostess rendered several romantic *kundiman*. Not to be outdone, Herr Gaisberger volunteered "Some Enchanted Evening," and Mexican Ambassador **Enrique Hubbard**, Dr. **Jaime Laya** and Saudi Arabian Ambassador **Mohamad Al-Ghamdi** also contributed to a memorable evening that we're sure Ambassador Chouraqui will long remember.

CHARISSE Chuidian

* * *

More than 500 supporters, among them members of the Diplomatic Corps and the spouses of the Heads of Missions, attended **Narda Camacho**'s "Celebrities in Concert" at the Manila Hotel for the benefit of the Linis-Ganda recycling program, of which she is executive vice president. Proceeds were earmarked for sidecars, push carts, uniforms and flyers.

Guests discovered Thai Ambassador **Busba Buuang**'s talent for singing and for languages. Her Filipino accent was impeccable as she sang "Dahil sa Iyo" from memory. The lady also speaks Spanish and French. Spouses of the Heads of Missions, **Saku Karunasiri**, **Micheline Jess**, **Irmgard Krepela**, **Soomchit Philakone**, **Binh Slavicka**, **Mariana Hubbard**, **Clara Colesanti**, together with **Fortune Ledesma** and **Evie Costa**, sang "Strangers in the Night," "Hello Dolly" and "New York, New York." Ms Karunasiri of Sri Lanka sang a medley of Filipino folk songs while Mexican Ambassador Enrique Hubbard and wife Mariana did Mexican songs. Brazilian Minister **Carlos Carvalho** sang two classic Spanish songs.

* * *

The Chamber of Pawnbrokers of the Phils. celebrated its 56th anniversary with the induction of newly elected officers and directors at the Manila Hotel. President **Luis Ablaza** is serving his fourth term.

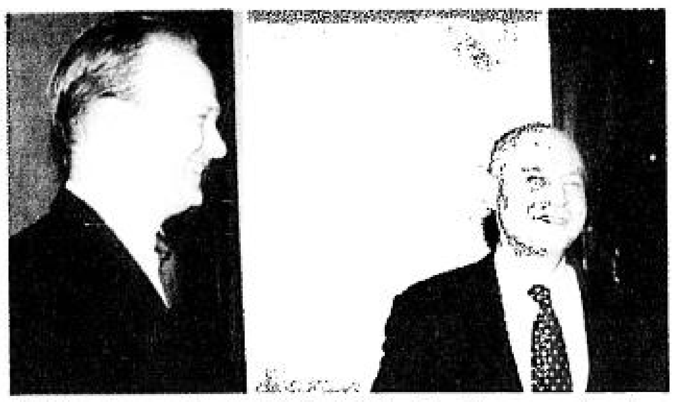
The new set of officers include: **Ricardo Lirio**, managing director of the Department of Thrift Bank and Non-Bank Financial Institution of the Bangko Sentral, **Henry Villarica**, **Jean Henri Lhuillier**, **Divinagracia Ongkeko**, **Pablo Magno**, **Isabel Abella**, **Lina Picache Enriquez**, **Rita de la Merced**, **Tito Lorete Alcala**, **Jose Tambunting**, his son **Victor**, **Marc Ablaza**, **Rodrigo Rivera**, **Celso Dlm. Hernandez** and **Victoria Villanueva**.

* * *

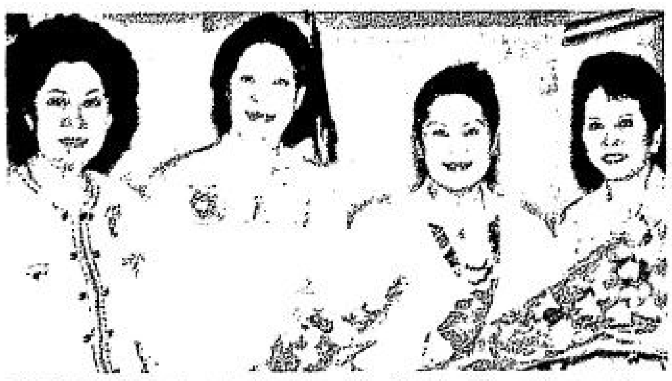
The United Nations Development Fund for Women (Unifem), together with Zonta Foundation Phils. and Zonta Int'l. District 17, celebrated International Women's Day at the Manila Polo Club. Guest speaker was **Marilou Diaz Abaya**, who spoke on the Mindanao conflict and the role of women in the peace process.

Members of the Board of Trustees of the Unifem Philippine Committee are: **Olga Martel**, chair; **Erlinda Panlilio**, president; **Beng Puyat**, **Anita Villafuerte**, **Mabel Abano**, **Virma Vergel de Dios**, **Betsy Enriquez** and **Erlinda Pastoral**. Former senator **Letty Shahani** and **Erlinda Villanueva** are advisors.

Unifem was set up to respond to the need to fund programs to help improve the living standards of millions of women throughout the world, especially in countries like the Philippines. It aims to give women a voice and visibility.



DAVID Thomas, Mandarin Oriental's food and beverage director, and French Ambassador Gilles Chouraqui



OLGA Severino Martel, Kathleen Yip, Marilou Diaz-Abaya and Erlinda Panlilio

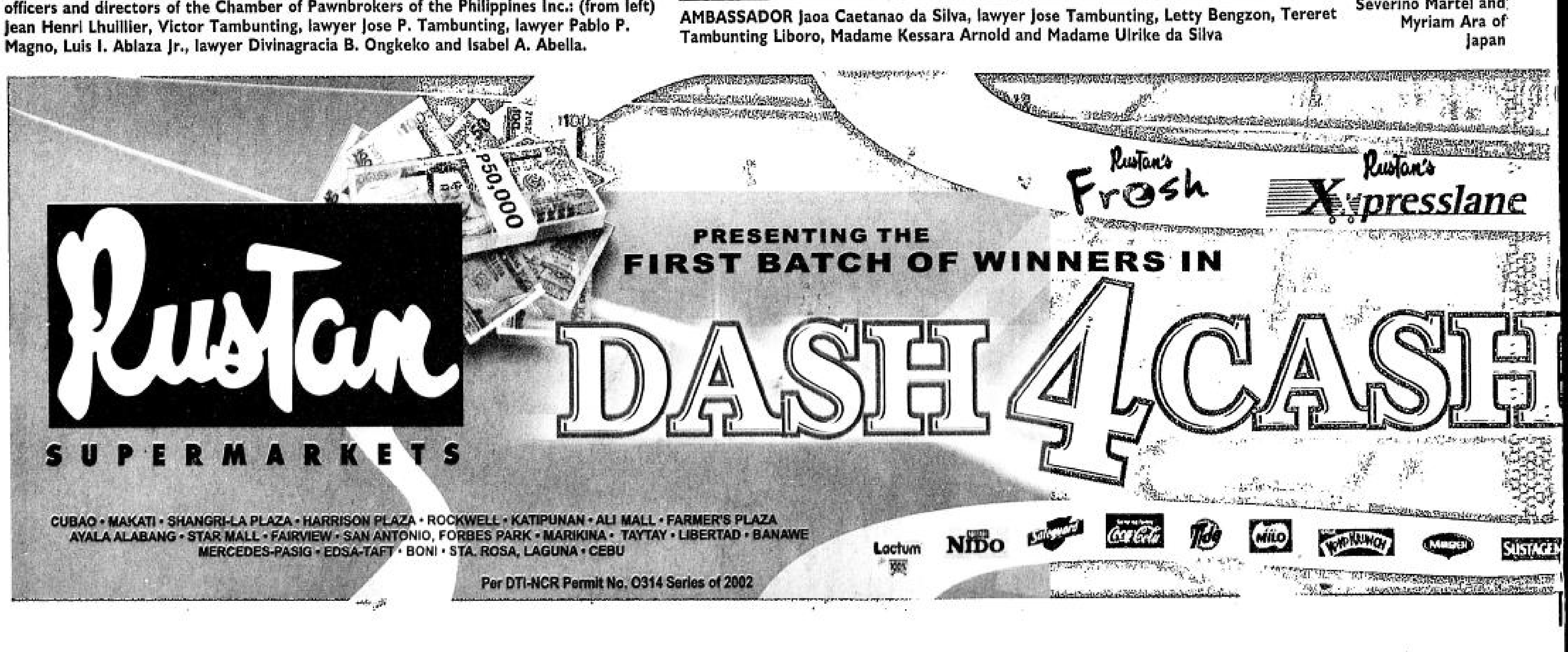
LENA Hakansson of Sweden, Consul Evie Costa, Mariana Hubbard and Chacha Camacho

BINH Slavicka of the Czech Repubilc, Consul Evie Costa, Mariana Hubbard of Mexico, Micheline Jess of Germany, Irmgard Krepela of Austria, Saku Karunasiri of Sri Lanka, Consul Fortune Ledesma, Clara Colesanti of Italy and Soomchit Philakone of Lao Republic

(SEATED, from left) Venezuelan Ambassador Milena Santana Ramirez, Letty Jorman, Kessara Arnold of the Netherlands, Erlinda Pastoral, Neelan Sarmad of Pakistan; (standing) Marianna Hubbard, Beng Puyat, Lena Hakansson, Clara Colesanti, Olga Severino Martel and Myriam Ara of Japan

RICARDO P. Lirio, managing director of the Department of Thrift Banks and Non-Bank Financial Intermediaries of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, inducts the newly elected officers and directors of the Chamber of Pawnbrokers of the Philippines Inc.: (from left) Jean Henri Lhuillier, Victor Tambunting, lawyer Jose P. Tambunting, lawyer Pablo P. Magno, Luis I. Ablaza Jr., lawyer Divinagracia B. Ongkeko and Isabel A. Abella.

AMBASSADOR Jaoa Caetanao da Silva, lawyer Jose Tambunting, Letty Bengzon, Tereret Tambunting Liboro, Madame Kessara Arnold and Madame Ulrike da Silva



Rustan SUPERMARKETS

Rustan's Fresh Rustan's Xpresslane

PRESENTING THE FIRST BATCH OF WINNERS IN

DASH 4 CASH

CUBAO • MAKATI • SHANGRI-LA PLAZA • HARRISON PLAZA • ROCKWELL • KATIPUNAN • ALI MALL • FARMER'S PLAZA
AYALA ALABANG • STAR MALL • FAIRVIEW • SAN ANTONIO, FORBES PARK • MARIKINA • TAYTAY • LIBERTAD • BANAWE
MERCEDES-PASIG • EDSA-TAFT • BONI • STA. ROSA, LAGUNA • CEBU

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0314 Series of 2002

BUTTERFLY pavilion

Forest park and orchidarium are unexpected urban oases

From page E8

more parks like this to convert polluted air into breathable air. Furthermore, it shows that idle city properties like the many Mehan Gardens that exist in the city can easily be converted into green places that breathe life to Manila.

Many Manileños, hardened by having to cope with life, cannot imagine that a place like the Orchidarium exists in the city. It is one of the city's tightly guarded secrets, a lush oasis of multicolored orchid blooms backdropped by an intense tropical green that manages to grow profoundly under the perennially gray Manila sky.

Simple pleasures exist at the Orchidarium. The landscaping effectively screens out the urban noise and pollution. Various walks lead through different areas, with collections of orchids, bromeliads and flowering hybrids named after each of the Philippine First Ladies.

Child-friendly

There is a butterfly pavilion where you can actually watch a butterfly hatching out of its cocoon. Behind the butterflies, the House of Reps is a snake pit if a different sort where the reptiles are caged and not allowed to roam free in Session Halls.

The Orchidarium is totally child-friendly. Each plant specimen is clearly identified and signage is at child level. But there is more to the place than communing with plants. For the more active, there is a rock-climbing wall. For contemplating on the peace and quiet in the Orchidarium, rent fishing poles and try your luck on the enormous central lagoon. Or else, sit on the wooden decks jutting over the water to have a sumptuous lunch from Lush Life restaurant.

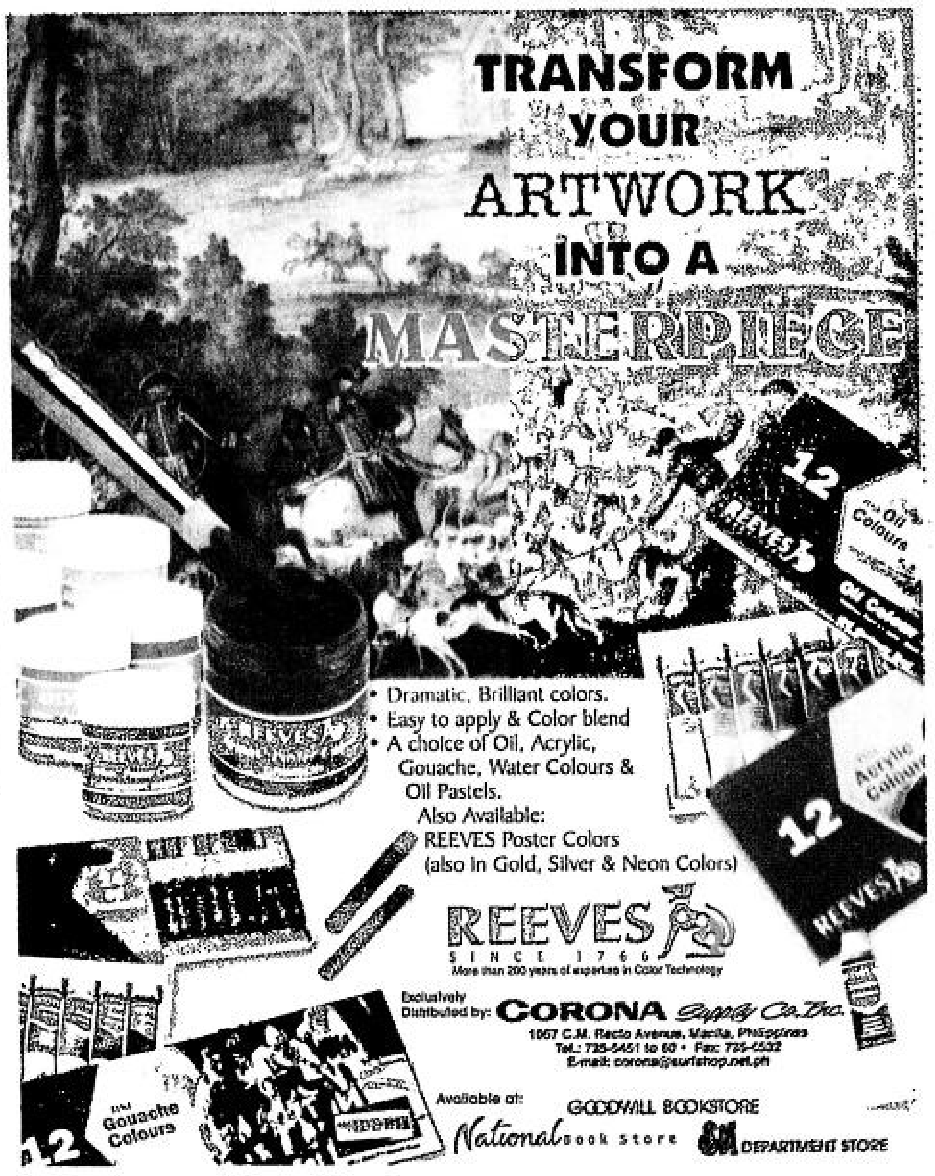
What a boost these places give to our quality of life!

The Orchidarium (entrance at Agrifina Circle, beside the Museum of the Filipino People) is open from Tuesdays to Sundays. Admission fee is P100 for adults, P60 for students. There is a summer promo in force now, where adult admission fee is P100 for two persons, or one adult ticket of P100 can be used twice.

To experience more of Manila this summer, join the Heritage Conservation Society walking tours held every weekend. Call the HCS Secretariat at 521- 2239 and 522-2497, or text (0917) 795-2697 or (0917) 830-0293

E-mail the author at afv@pacific.net.ph

A LUSH tropical garden of orchids, trees and Philippine plants



TRANSFORM YOUR ARTWORK INTO A MASTERPIECE

- Dramatic, Brilliant colors.
- Easy to apply & Color blend
- A choice of Oil, Acrylic, Gouache, Water Colours & Oil Pastels.

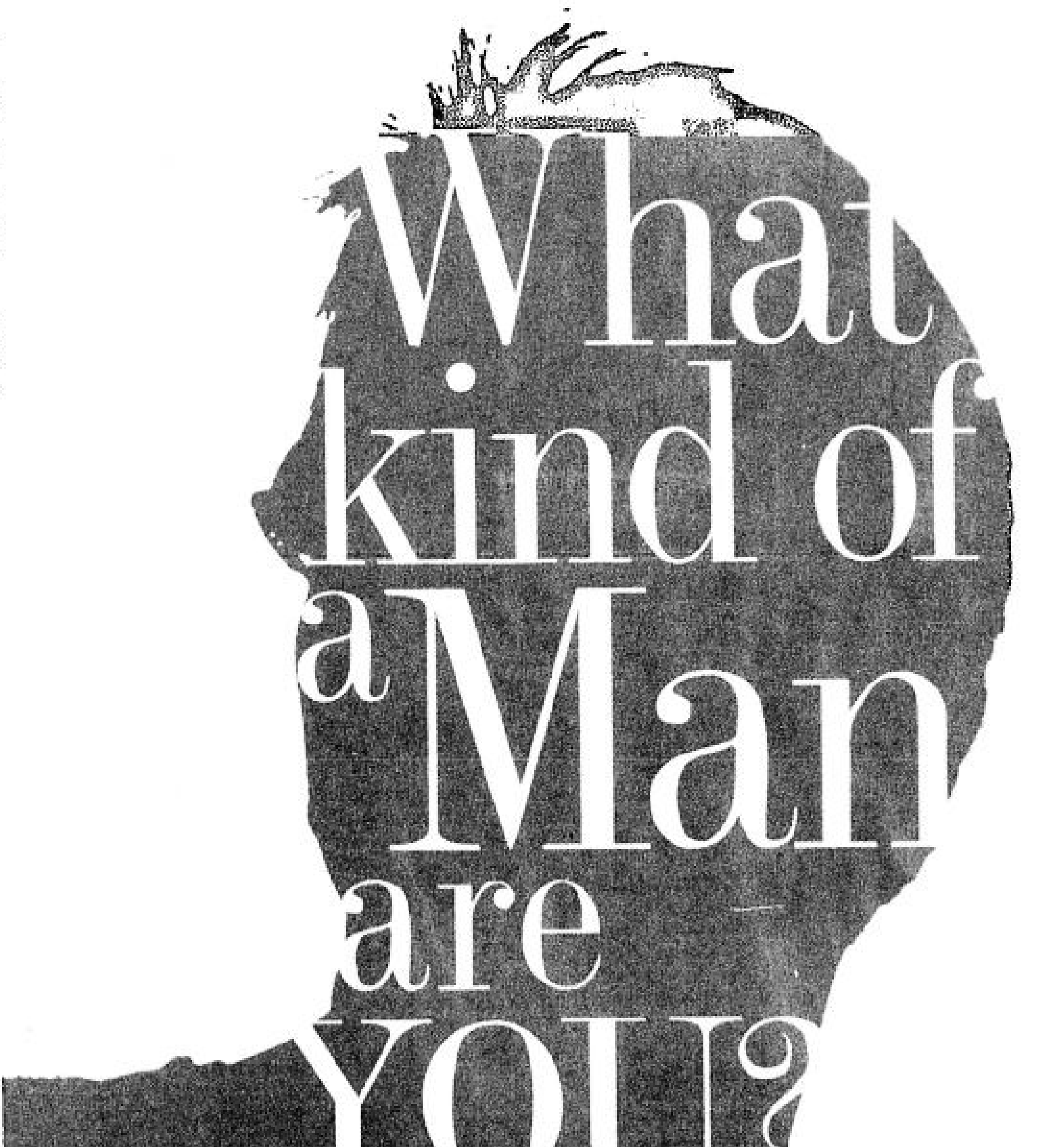
Also Available:
REEVES Poster Colors
(also in Gold, Silver & Neon Colors)

REEVES
SINCE 1766
More than 200 years of expertise in Color Technology

Exclusively Distributed by: CORONA Supply Co. Inc.
1067 C.M. Recto Avenue, Manila, Philippines
Tel.: 735-5451 to 60 • Fax: 735-5532
E-mail: corona@surfshop.net.ph

Available at: GOODWILL BOOKSTORE National Book Store SM DEPARTMENT STORE

12
REEVES
Oil Colours
Acrylic Colours
Gouache Colours

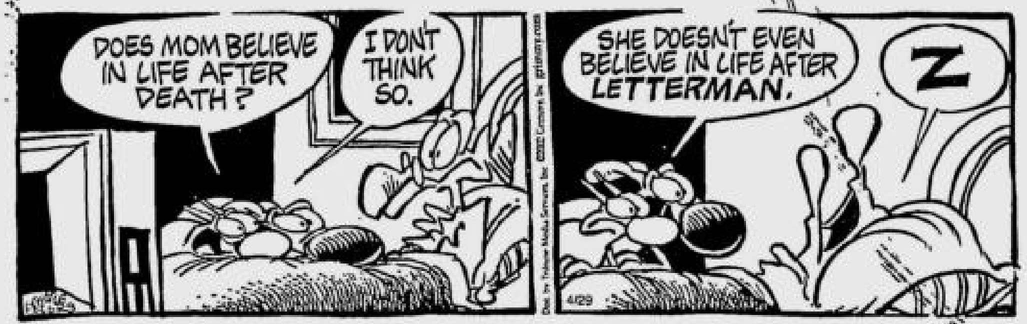


What kind of a Man are YOU?
Are you the sensitive type?
Do you play rough?
Are you broadminded?
Do you have a colorful personality?
PREMIERES on 05.2002

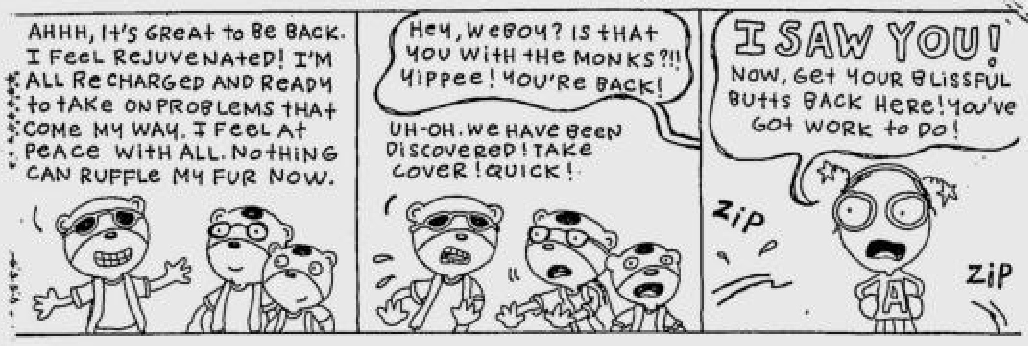
KEEP ON SHOPPING!
YOU MAY BE THE NEXT WINNER!
9 MORE WEEKS OF WINNING...
Hurry Dash for Cash is up to June 30, 2002 only.

MELCHOR TORRIRIT P5,000 STA.ROSA
CELY MARTINEAU P2,032 HARRISON PLAZA
BABY BULSECO P2,253 FARMER'S PLAZA
OPHELIA RACHO P1,711 MARIKINA
P5,000
VOLTAIRE ALCANTARA P10,000 MAKATI
SHIELA PASCUA P5,000 CUBAO
P5,000 HARRISON PLAZA
P5,000 ROCKWELL
ERLINDA LAGA P5,000 SAPA
SAMUEL RAMOS P5,000 ROCKWELL
LOUELLA TAMINA P10,000 FARMER'S PLAZA
EMILIA GRACILLA P10,000 CUBAO
LOLIT SAN P10,000 CUBAO
EVELYN JAUOD P50,000 HARRISON PLAZA
MILDRED QUINZON P50,000
P50,000 FARMER'S PLAZA
MARY ANN GARCIA P25,000 MAKATI
MARY ROSE TUPAZ P10,000 ROCKWELL
BERNADITA FUNGO P10,000 ROCKWELL

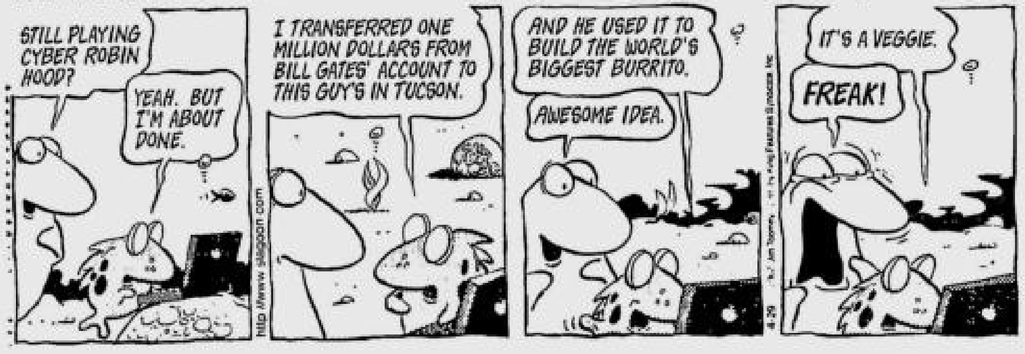
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM BY MIKE PETERS


DOES MOM BELIEVE IN LIFE AFTER DEATH?
I DON'T THINK SO.
SHE DOESN'T EVEN BELIEVE IN LIFE AFTER LETTERMAN.
Z
4/29

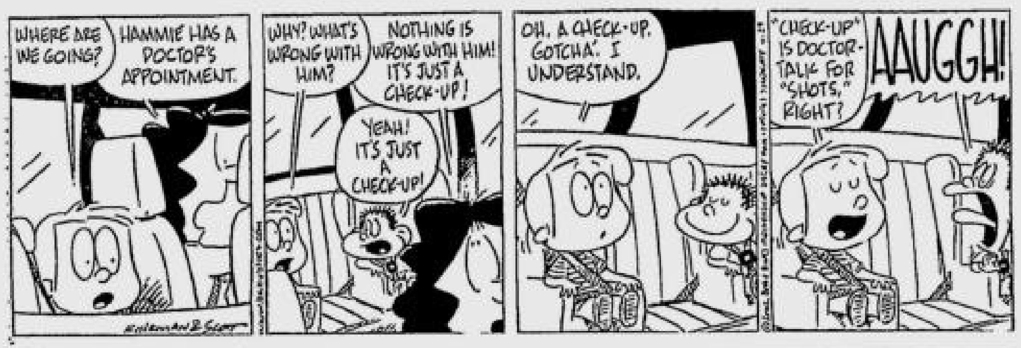
ATOMO AND WEBOY BY LYRA GARCELLANO


AHHH, IT'S GREAT TO BE BACK. I FEEL REJUVENATED! I'M ALL RECHARGED AND READY TO TAKE ON PROBLEMS THAT COME MY WAY. I FEEL AT PEACE WITH ALL. NOTHING CAN RUFFLE MY FUR NOW.
HEY, WEBOY? IS THAT YOU WITH THE MONKS?!! YIPPEE! YOU'RE BACK!
UH-OH. WE HAVE BEEN DISCOVERED! TAKE COVER! QUICK!
I SAW YOU! NOW, GET YOUR BLISSFUL BUTTS BACK HERE! YOU'VE GOT WORK TO DO!
ZIP
ZIP

SHERMAN'S LAGOON BY JIM TOOMEY


STILL PLAYING CYBER ROBIN HOOD?
YEAH. BUT I'M ABOUT DONE.
I TRANSFERRED ONE MILLION DOLLARS FROM BILL GATES' ACCOUNT TO THIS GUY'S IN TUCSON.
AND HE USED IT TO BUILD THE WORLD'S BIGGEST BURRITO.
AWESOME IDEA.
IT'S A VEGGIE.
FREAK!
http://www.slagoon.com
4-29

BABY BLUES BY JERRY SCOTT


WHERE ARE WE GOING?
HAMMIE HAS A DOCTOR'S APPOINTMENT.
WHY? WHAT'S WRONG WITH HIM?
NOTHING IS WRONG WITH HIM! IT'S JUST A CHECK-UP!
YEAH! IT'S JUST A CHECK-UP!
OH. A CHECK-UP. GOTCHA. I UNDERSTAND.
"CHECK-UP" IS DOCTOR-TALK FOR "SHOTS," RIGHT?
AAUGGH!
KIRKMAN & SCOTT

HOROSCOPE

BY EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Uma Thurman, Michelle Pfeiffer, Jerry Seinfeld

Happy Birthday: You will find it quite easy to make money this year. You will be lucky when it comes to work and investments as long as you do your research. You must not sit idle this year. The more you do, the more opportunities you will discover. Your numbers are 4, 12, 15, 23, 27, 38

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You'll be quick to take any opportunity that will lead you on a little adventure. Travel or getting involved in a group that has different philosophies will be enlightening.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You will get a lot done around the house. Family money and papers may need to be dealt with. Talk to a relative that has not been well. You will gain insight if you do.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): If you stand back and let everyone else take center stage today, you will not be able to impress the people you are with. Partnerships will develop if you share your concerns and intentions.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Focus on your work and don't hesitate to lend a helping hand to one of your peers. He or she will offer you the same assistance when you really need it.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): It's time to get serious and join in and help. If there is a cause you believe in you will find that your contributions will make a difference.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't take any chances when it comes to your personal life or your home and family. You must keep a clear head and act on the principle that everything you do is what's best for everyone concerned.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): The more you interact with friends and colleagues, the better you'll do. You should have more confidence in yourself. You know more than you think you do.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Put on the big push and jump-start your ability to move up the financial ladder. Focus on your work and your ability to get things done. You may want to put your cash in a safe long-term investment.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You'll be ready to take on the world and do your own thing but you had better think twice before you go too far. You will be full of energy and if you don't funnel it properly your intentions may backfire.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't let anyone limit you at work. You know what you are capable of and therefore you should do what you know in your heart is right. Be careful if you are driving or operating equipment.

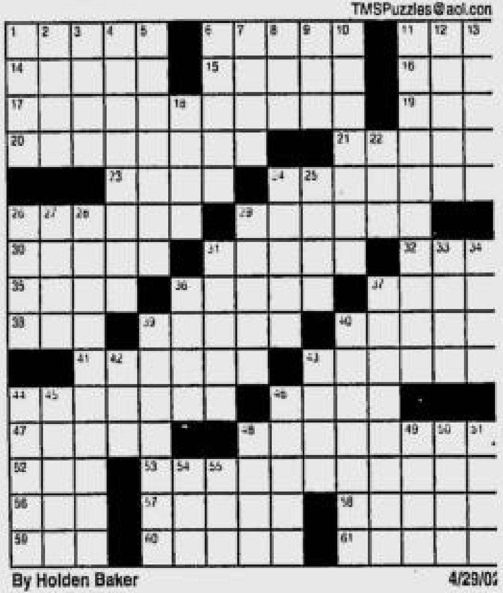
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You have the discipline to finish all those things you started way back when. You should be able to put the things back together and you'll come up with the answers you need.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't let someone get to you. You may be a little sensitive and you are likely to take things the wrong way. Do your own thing and try to work by yourself today.

Birthday Baby: You will take the initiative to get your point across, and you can be persuasive when it comes to getting others to follow your lead. You will be an enthusiastic and inspiring individual throughout your life.

DAILY CROSSWORD

TMSPuzzles@aol.com



By Holden Baker
Greenfield, MA

4/29/02

ACROSS
1 Approached stealthily
6 Watchful
11 Money mgr.
14 Part of LEM
15 Polynesian island group
16 Trajectory
17 E-mail program feature
19 King of France
20 Incapacitates
21 Implant snugly
23 Rorschach image
24 Sgts. and cpls.
26 Churchill's successor
29 Express grief
30 California point
31 Dubuque resident
32 Slice
35 Spaces between
36 Landscaping tool
37 Ritzy
38 Mine vein
39 Type of chicken
40 Thicket
41 With caution
43 "__ Coming to Take Me Away, Ha-Haaa!"
44 Frantic cries
46 Not this
47 Sets of two
48 Personal magnetism
52 Picnic pest
53 Public telephone plastic
56 Sock's end
57 Pierre's love
58 Facilitated
59 Military address
60 Surfeited
61 Toboggans

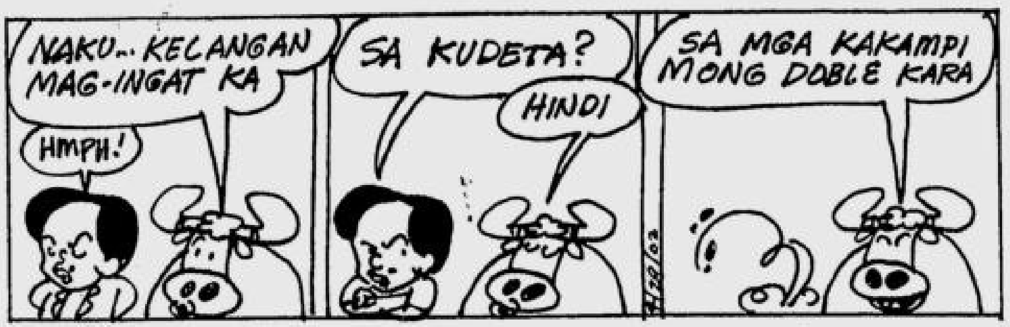
DOWN
1 Dressed
2 Gernreich of fashion
3 Remnants
4 Allegories
5 Increases from four to twelve
6 Something of value
7 Sci. classes
8 Comic Philips
9 Pooh's friend
10 Accepted, as a challenge
11 Segal movie
12 Preface
13 Etching fluids
18 Gin flavoring
22 Media business grp.
24 Less used
25 Actor Sharif
26 Jason's galley
27 Rend
28 Word processor's ancestor
29 One over par
31 Pastoral verses
33 Cold War letters
34 You, to a Quaker
36 Estrada of "CHiPs"
37 Fancifully depicted
39 Coca-Cola beverages
40 Runs at
42 Broadcast
43 "Less __ Zero"
44 Squabbles
45 Vietnam capital
46 Baseball's hot corner
48 Col. Mustard's game
49 Enclosure with a ms.
50 TV's talking horse
51 Contributes
54 Doc's org.
55 Destiny

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

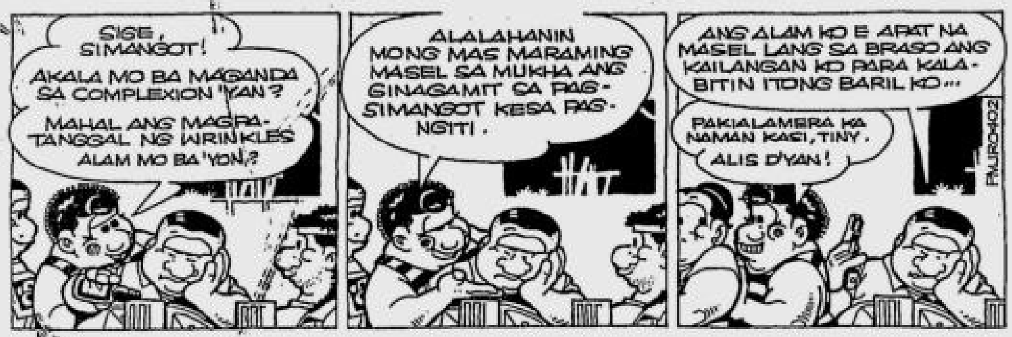
E	C	O	L	O	G	I	C	■	S	P	L	A	T	S
M	A	N	I	T	O	B	A	■	C	L	O	T	H	E
P	R	A	T	T	L	E	R	■	R	I	F	L	E	S
R	A	G	E	■	F	A	L	S	E	S	T	A	R	T
E	W	E	R	S	■	M	O	L	E	S	■	N	E	E
S	A	R	A	P	E	■	A	O	N	E	■	T	O	T
S	Y	S	T	E	M	■	D	O	T	■	B	A	N	S
■	■	■	E	C	O	N	■	P	E	S	O	■	■	■
P	A	L	S	■	L	A	B	■	S	T	R	I	C	T
I	C	E	■	A	U	T	O	■	T	O	N	G	U	E
E	R	G	■	S	M	E	L	T	■	P	A	N	D	A
R	E	A	S	S	E	S	S	E	D	■	G	O	D	S
C	A	T	K	I	N	■	T	R	A	D	A	B	L	E
E	G	O	I	S	T	■	E	N	T	A	I	L	E	R
D	E	R	M	I	S	■	R	E	A	L	N	E	S	S

(C)2002 Tribune Media Services, Inc
All rights reserved.
4/29/02

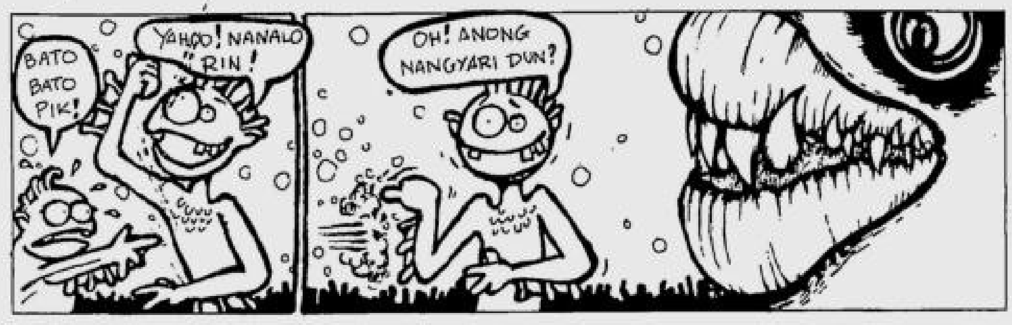
A. LIPIN BY JESS ABRERA


NAKU.. KELANGAN MAG-INGAT KA
HMPH!
SA KUDETA?
HINDI
SA MGA KAKAMPI MONG DOBLE KARA
4/29/02

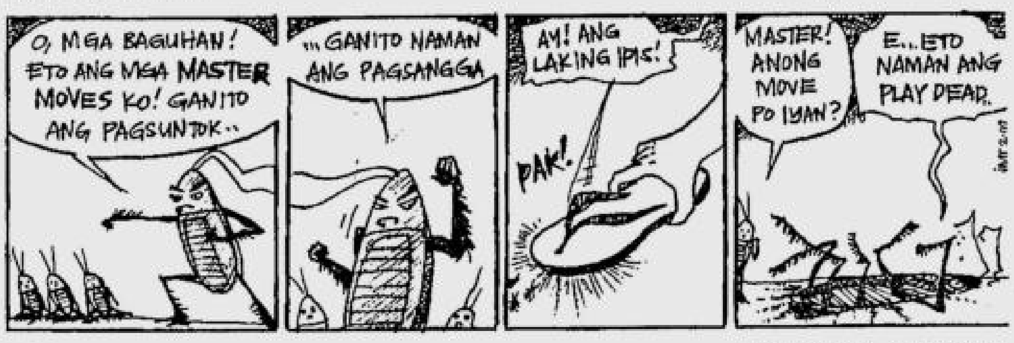
PUGAD BABOY BY P.M. JUNIOR


SIGE, SIMANGOT!
AKALA MO BA MAGANDA SA COMPLEXION 'YAN?
MAHAL ANG MAGPA-TANGGAL NG WRINKLES ALAM MO BA 'YON?
ALALAHANIN MONG MAS MARAMING MASEL SA MUKHA ANG GINAGAMIT SA PAG-SIMANGOT KESA PAG-NGITI.
ANG ALAM KO E APAT NA MASEL LANG SA BRASO ANG KAILANGAN KO PARA KALA-BITIN ITONG BARIL KO...
PAKIALAMERA KA NAMAN KASI, TINY. ALIS D'YAN!
PJUR0402

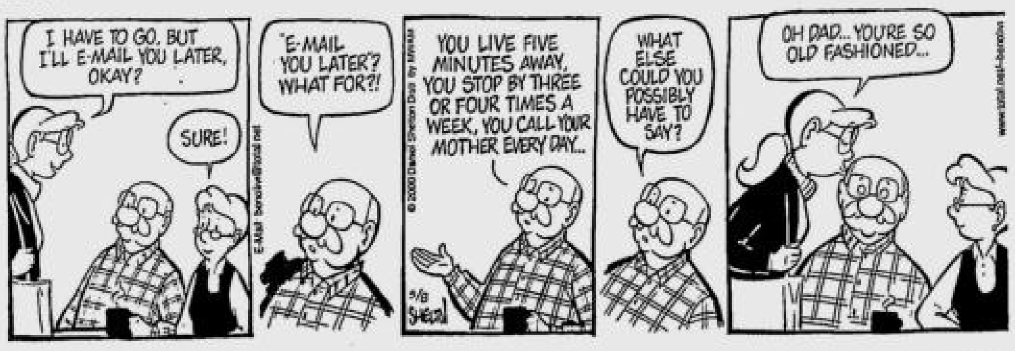
CHICHOY CHOKOY BY IKOY RICIO


BATO BATO PIK!
YAHOO! NANALO 'RIN!
OH! ANONG NANGYARI DUN?

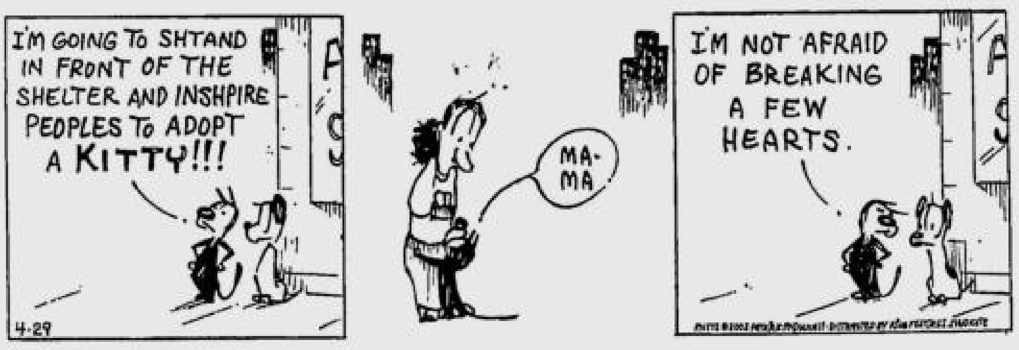
MIKROKOSMOS BY JOMIKE TEJIDO


O, MGA BAGUHAN! ETO ANG MGA MASTER MOVES KO! GANITO ANG PAGSUNTOK..
...GANITO NAMAN ANG PAGSANGGA
AY! ANG LAKING IPIS!
PAK!
MASTER! ANONG MOVE PO IYAN?
E.. ETO NAMAN ANG PLAY DEAD.

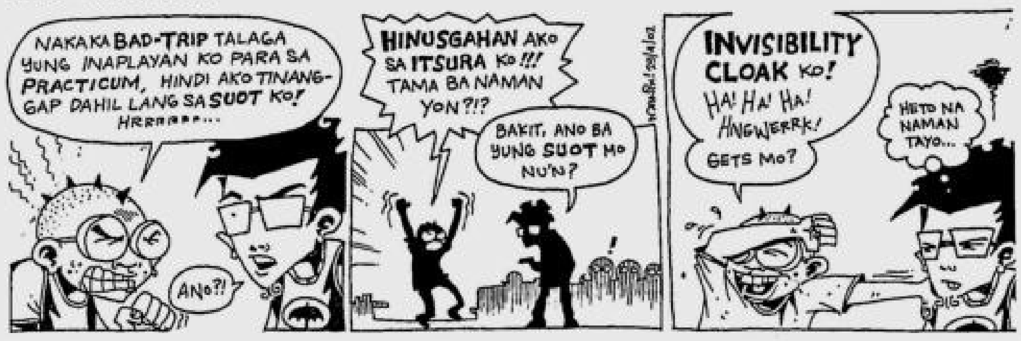
BEN BY DANIEL SHELTON


I HAVE TO GO, BUT I'LL E-MAIL YOU LATER, OKAY?
SURE!
"E-MAIL YOU LATER"? WHAT FOR?!
YOU LIVE FIVE MINUTES AWAY, YOU STOP BY THREE OR FOUR TIMES A WEEK, YOU CALL YOUR MOTHER EVERY DAY...
WHAT ELSE COULD YOU POSSIBLY HAVE TO SAY?
OH DAD... YOU'RE SO OLD FASHIONED...
© 2000 Daniel Shelton

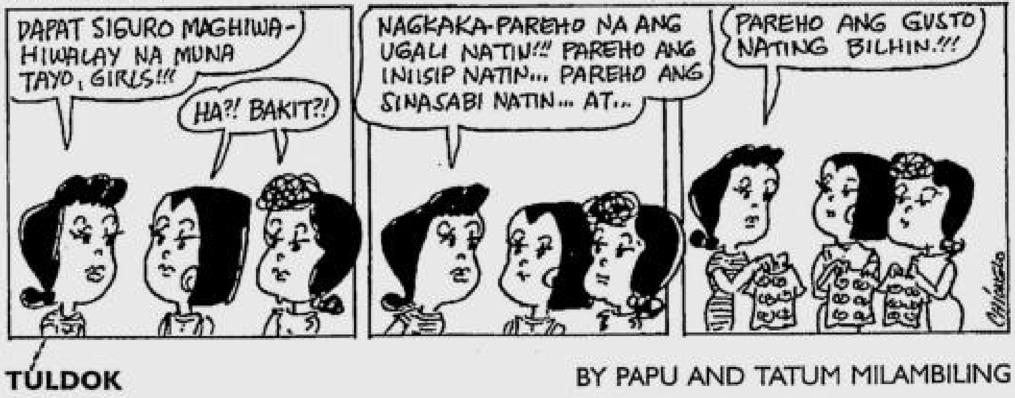
MUTTS BY PATRICK McDONNELL


I'M GOING TO SHTAND IN FRONT OF THE SHELTER AND INSHPIRE PEOPLES TO ADOPT A KITTY!!!
MA-MA
I'M NOT AFRAID OF BREAKING A FEW HEARTS.
4-29

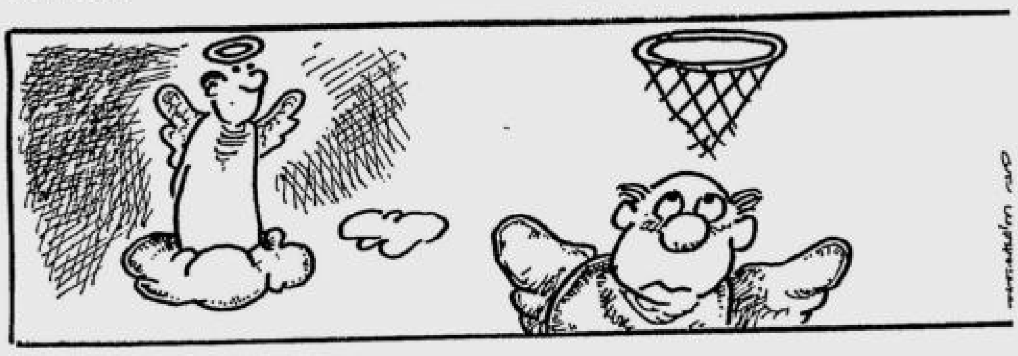
KIKO MACHINE BY MANIX ABRERA


NAKAKA BAD-TRIP TALAGA YUNG INAPLAYAN KO PARA SA PRACTICUM, HINDI AKO TINANGGAP DAHIL LANG SA SUOT KO! HRRRRRR...
ANO?!
HINUSGAHAN AKO SA ITSURA KO!!! TAMA BA NAMAN YON?!?
BAKIT, ANO BA YUNG SUOT MO NU'N?
INVISIBILITY CLOAK KO! HA! HA! HA! HNGWERRK!
GETS MO?
HETO NA NAMAN TAYO...

LOVEKNOTS BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


DAPAT SIGURO MAGHIWA-HIWALAY NA MUNA TAYO, GIRLS!!!
HA?! BAKIT?!
NAGKAKA-PAREHO NA ANG UGALI NATIN!!! PAREHO ANG INIISIP NATIN... PAREHO ANG SINASABI NATIN... AT...
PAREHO ANG GUSTO NATING BILHIN.!!!
Chionglo

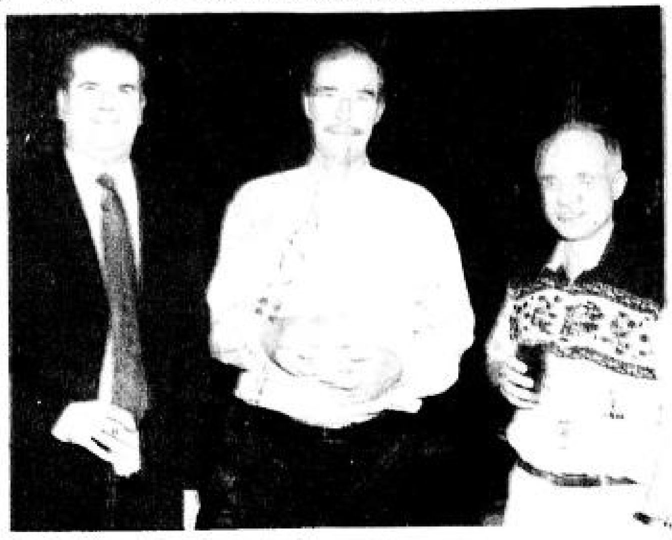
TULDOK BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING



BIRDLIFE GLOBAL COUNCIL

Not only for the birds

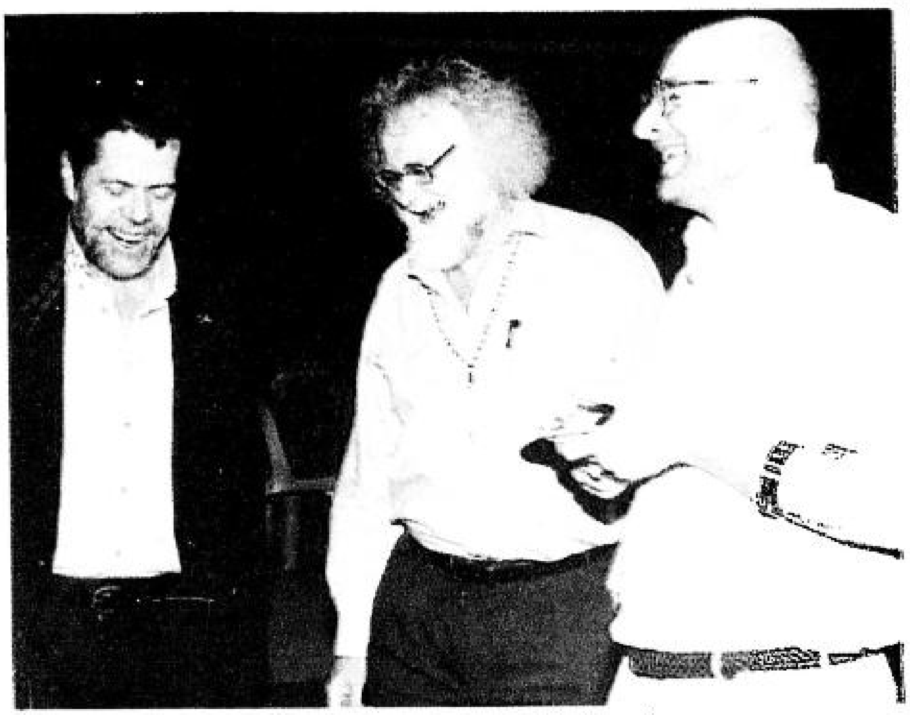
By Donnie C. Ramirez
Contributor
Photos by Betoy Johnson



DAVID Campbell, Jan Willem Cool and Arne Erik Jensen

MICHAEL Rand, Annabelle Plantilla and Secretary Corazon Soliman

BELEN King



DR. Leon Bennun, Dr. Graham Harrington and Dr. Aldo Berruti

DR. Noritaka Ichida

DR. Pantaleon Kasoma

THE RESIDENCE of bird fancier and avowed environmentalist Belen King provided the perfect setting for the welcome reception in honor of the participants in the recently concluded BirdLife Global Council Meeting in Subic. This was the first time that the country played host to the biennial event, which attracts the world's most distinguished bird conservationists. At the meeting, the council discussed issues concerning the current plight of birds and adopted strategies, programs and policies to further enhance its conservation efforts and better protect the birds' habitats and sites.

The BirdLife International Global Council is headed by Dr. Gerard Bertrand of the USA, chair, and Anastasios Leventis of Nigeria, treasurer. Regional members include Dr. Aldo Berruti (Wildlife South Africa), Dr. Pantaleon Kasoma (Nature Uganda) for Africa, BirdLife Asia Regional Council chair Dr. Noritaka Ichida (Japan) and Haribon vice president Prof. Blas Tabaranza Jr. of the Philippines, representing Asia.

Michael Bradstreet and Julie Gelfand from Canada, both represent the Caribbean and North America, while Dr. Juan Carlos Reboreda (Argentina) and Norita Scott-Pezet (Panama Audobon Society) represent Central and South America. Joasef Fidloczly (MME Hungary), Johanna Winkleman (Vogelbes Cherming Nederland) and Graham Wynne (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, United Kingdom) represent Europe. Khaled Irani (Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature in Jordan) represents the Middle East and Dr. Graham Harrington is the Pacific representative.

The guests were one in their admiration for the lush garden of Ms King, who is a Haribon founding member. A longtime advocate of environmental causes, Ms King believes that everybody should do his share in preserving and protecting the world's environment, a strong belief that is reflected in her home, which is rich in greenery and which she describes as "a home that promotes harmonious living with nature."

Haribon Foundation CEO Annabelle Plantilla welcomed the delegates from all over the globe. "Haribon is so honored to host the very first BirdLife Global Council in the Philippines, a prestigious and very timely event since Haribon is celebrating its 30th anniversary," she said.

Graham Wynne, who represented Dr. Bertrand, stressed the importance of the Philippines in the global environment. "The Philippines is a very significant site for BirdLife International because it has one of the world's highest concentrations of endemic bird species," he said.

Also present at the affair were Haribon director for institutional development program Aldrin Mallari, board member Angelina Galang, British embassy deputy head of mission David Campbell, BirdLife International executive director Dr. Michael Rand, World Bank co-director for technical assistance to biodiversity conservation (Philippines) Arne Erik Jensen and Social Welfare Secretary Corazon Soliman.

BirdLife International is a global partnership of non-governmental organizations with a focus on birds that work together on shared priorities, exchanging skills, achievements and information, growing in ability, authority and influence. It has 2.5 million members worldwide, 800,000 hectares of owned or managed land, 4,000 staff members that works for conservation and over two million children involved annually.

Haribon Foundation has over 27 years of experience in scientific and socio-economic research on the natural ecosystems, and biodiversity conservation through protected area management. It focuses on biodiversity and socio-economics and their interrelations as these are important to the Foundation so people will realize that biodiversity is at the core of mankind's existence.

Through BirdLife International, Haribon Foundation has access to the latest scientific research and breakthroughs that concern the conservation and protection of birds. Together, both organizations work toward integrating bird conservation to sustain people's livelihoods. That task, certainly, is not for the birds!

ANGELINA Galang and Graham Wynne

Language teachers meet in Baguio May 1-3

THE PHILIPPINE Association for Language Teaching Inc. (PALT) will hold its 41st annual convention May 1-3 at the Teacher's Camp, Baguio City.

Theme of the three-day convention is "Content-Based Instruction: Language Use in Meaningful Contexts." The event is in line with PALT's mission to encourage and sponsor research and training programs on language education.

The meeting will address concerns like the systematic integration of subject matter and language, articulation in the curriculum and the development of functional interactional proficiency or academic competence to enable learners to handle the demands of classroom instruction.

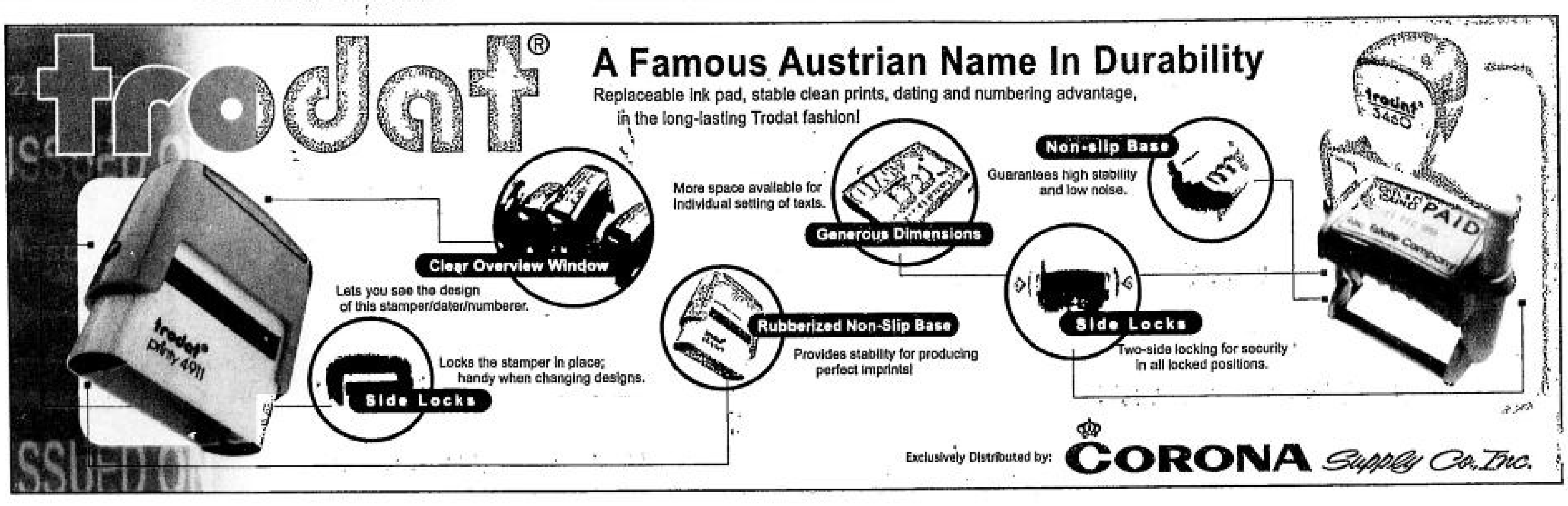
Speakers include directors from the Department of Education on The New Basic Education Curriculum; Dr. Thomas Kral, cultural affairs officer, United States embassy; Dr. Craig Dicker, regional English language officer (Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines), Department of State; Dr. Rosario E. Maminta, dean, University of the East; Dr. Galileo Zafra, director, Sentro ng Wika, University of the Philippines.

Teachers of Filipino, English, Science, Mathematics and Social Studies are invited.

Call Teresita P. Ignacio, PALT president, at 929-9322, or Adelina Macatangay at 920-5301 local 6478 or 929-9322.

TRUST
PREMIERE
Share your new passions.

Ilama
PREMIERE
man
TRUST
For the rugged
For the adventurous
For the sensitive
For the broadminded



trodat®
A Famous Austrian Name In Durability
Replaceable ink pad, stable clean prints, dating and numbering advantage, in the long-lasting Trodat fashion!

Clear Overview Window
Lets you see the design of this stamper/dater/numberer.

Side Locks
Locks the stamper in place; handy when changing designs.

Generous Dimensions
More space available for individual setting of texts.

Rubberized Non-Slip Base
Provides stability for producing perfect imprints!

Non-slip Base
Guarantees high stability and low noise.

Side Locks
Two-side locking for security in all locked positions.

Exclusively Distributed by: CORONA Supply Co. Inc.

THE ORCHIDARIUM: A place to commune with plants

Forest park and orchidarium are unexpected urban oases

What a boost these green pockets in the city give to our quality of life!

SPACED OUT

Augusto F. Villalon

FOR A SUMMER breather, check out two places in Manila to touch and feel that rare, vanishing urban commodity—green space and fresh air. The places to go are the Arroceros Forest Park and the Orchidarium.

Both places are an urban luxury, where fully grown trees shade your path while flowering plants brighten up your walks, where the mass of trees and plants efficiently convert polluted Manila air and make breathing easy. Being here is proof that Manila needs more places like these because whatever urban lungs the city still has these days simply cannot cope with the oppressing volume of pollution that we live under.

War zone

The Arroceros Forest Park is right in the center of the city, in a location where the congestion of pedestrian and vehicular traffic clogs the area where Arroceros Street opens up to the eastern end of Liwasang Bonifacio and ends at the foot of Quezon Bridge. It feels like a war zone there. The neighbors of the Arroceros Forest, Mayor Atienza's Mehan Garden and the abandoned Metropolitan Theater, Manila's undisputed Art Deco jewel, are under threat.

Walk through the gates of the Arroceros Forest Park into another world. Walk under the shade of the almost fully grown trees. Feel the soft crunch of leaves on the ground. Hear the birds overhead. Most of all, take deep breaths because this is one of the few places in Manila where the air is really clean, no small achievement for a place that happens to be in the center of the city.

The park was carefully landscaped with primary trees, slow-growing hardwoods that are surrounded by quick growing secondary trees that will be relocated once the primary trees mature fully. With the secondary trees almost grown to maturity, the forest is quite an urban nature reserve, possibly the only one in the city.

This is one of the few places in the city where urban children can experience a forest setting, a nature trip that otherwise would take a long journey into the provinces. It is also an educational reserve where all trees are labeled and where sound ecological principles are practiced. Dead leaves and garbage are composted. Seedlings are grown and distributed for tree-planting programs.

Walk along the banks of the Pasig within the Arroceros Forest Park where the water and the canopy of trees cool the summer heat away. It takes a long stretch of imagination, but the feel is like Rizal's description of the bucolic Pasig during his time. From the riverbank walk, the overhead branches soften the view of Quiapo across the river, making it not as harsh a reality as we all know.

Arroceros Forest Park is not yet open to the public, but there is one way to get there. If you want to really experience the Forest Park, join the Winner Foundation-Arroceros Forest Park Clean-up Team where you can "enhance the beauty of the Arroceros Forest Park by helping pick up plastic, segregate trash, cut dried leaves, remove vines or clear a pathway to the forest." To volunteer, call Hands On Manila at 843 7044 or e-mail handsonmla@pinoymail.com

To draw attention to the success of Arroceros Forest Park, it was where the World Environment Day celebrations were held last week. What is an ecological success like the Arroceros Forest Park to some is seen by others as underutilized urban real estate.

Mayor Atienza has set his sights on the Arroceros Forest Park property, declaring that it will serve the public better after most of the forest has been removed and replaced with buildings to house city teachers.

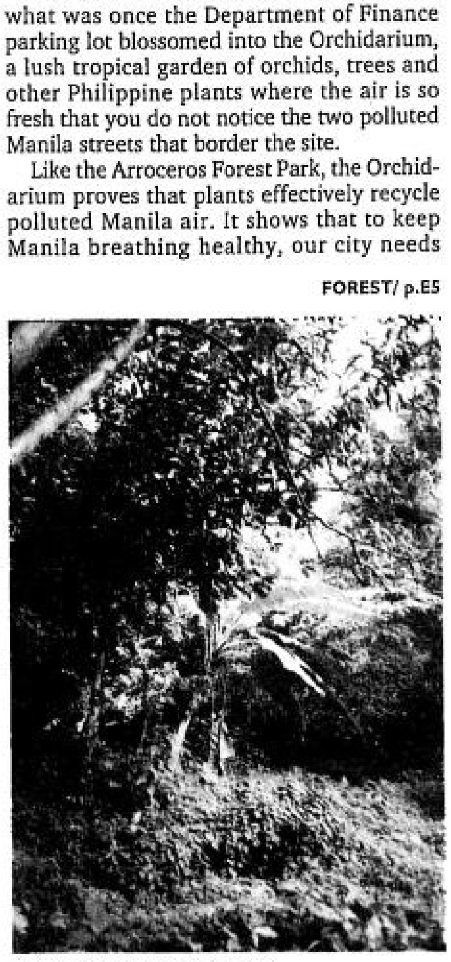
It is the Mehan Garden issue all over again. Yes, we agree that teachers need housing but Manila residents need parks as well. Wouldn't it be easier to find another location for the teachers and spare the Arroceros Forest Park, as it would be to move the City College campus and retain Mehan Garden as an open space that Manila sorely needs?

Tropical garden

Not far from the Arroceros Forest Park, what was once the Department of Finance parking lot blossomed into the Orchidarium, a lush tropical garden of orchids, trees and other Philippine plants where the air is so fresh that you do not notice the two polluted Manila streets that border the site.

Like the Arroceros Forest Park, the Orchidarium proves that plants effectively recycle polluted Manila air. It shows that to keep Manila breathing healthy, our city needs

FOREST/ p.E5



ARROCEROS Forest Park

Grab a cold one and look under the tansan for your chance to win the
PRIZE STAMPEDE
Colt 45
Colt 45 MALT LIQUOR
YOU CAN WIN
MAN ENOUGH TO WIN
RANGER
STAMPEDE
From the bustling city to the wide-open countryside, drive your way to fun and adventure with the custom-built Colt 45 Ford Stampede pickup.

It's easy!
Just collect these tansans to complete the phrase "Are You Man Enough?" and a Colt 45 logo.

Colt 45 ARE
Colt 45 YOU
Colt 45
Colt 45 MAN
Colt 45 ENOUGH?
Find this tansan & win a FORD Stampede!
Colt 45 FORD Ranger Stampede
Find this tansan & win an UMBRO Stampede sports watch!
Colt 45 UMBRO Stampede Watch
YOU CAN WIN
The inner lining of a winning tansan must remain intact.

Limited edition Colt 45 UMBRO Stampede sports watch (from UK) gives you state-of-the-art features!

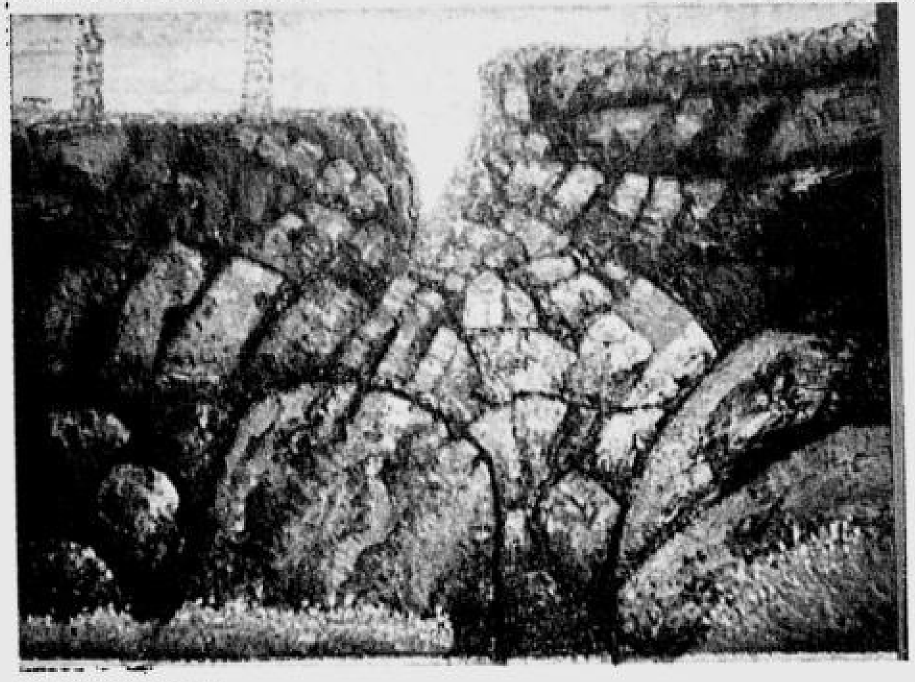
Find this tansan and win millions of FREE Colt 45 beers!

Colt 45 330 ml. (contents only)

ARE YOU MAN ENOUGH TO WIN?
SEE POSTERS FOR DETAILS
Promo Period : March 15 to June 15, 2002
Per DOH-BFAD Permit No.0013, Series of 2002

LIFESTYLE

For feedback, text us at (0918)917-5026 or email us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph



"NATURE'S Song"

Rock landscapes agleam with gemlike tones

STORY ON PAGE F2

UP, ATENEO, LA SALLE
College Entrance Test Review
VENUES: ALABANG, KATIPUNAN, GREENHILLS, ORTIGAS, MANILA, MAKATI
AHEAD
TUTORIAL & REVIEW
A+
426-0034 to 36 0917-8911187
www.ahead.com.ph

TechnoMarine
WWW.TECHNOMARINE.COM
TECHNOMARINE ENTERPRISES PHILIPPINES INC. TEL. (632) 6363398 FAX (632) 6363399
RAFAEL JEWELLERY 2ND LEVEL, SHANGRI-LA EDSA MALL, EDSA COR. SHAW, MANDALUYONG CITY TEL. 6363398
RAFAEL JEWELLERY MEZZANINE LEVEL, MAKATI SHANGRI-LA HOTEL, MAKATI CITY TEL. 6363398 MY DIAMOND 2ND FLOOR
GLORIETTA 4, AYALA CENTER MAKATI CITY TEL. 8172764 TIME PLUS 75 GRND. FLOOR
GREENHILLS THEATRE MALL TEL. 7217868 WISH UNIT 121, SHANGRI-LA SHOPPING
ARCADE, AYALA AVENUE 1226 MAKATI CITY TEL. 8673850 WASHINGTON ROCKWELL R1 LEVEL,
POWERPLANT MALL, MAKATI CITY TEL. 8982288
AS SEEN IN

BANGUS LARGE*
P94.50/KI
REG. PRICE P112.50/KL

AUSTRALIAN BROCOLLI*
P199.50/KI
REG. PRICE P210.00/KL

MANGOES*
P31.50/KI
REG. PRICE P34.50/KL

TILAPIA JUMBO *
P62.50/KI
REG. PRICE P73.00/KL

POTATO REGULAR*
P20.50/KI
REG. PRICE P28.50/KL

RED GLOBE GRAPES*
P109.50/KI
REG. PRICE P136.00/KL

VANILLA SPONGE CAKE
P89.99
REG. PRICE P99.99

FRESH BEEF SAUSAGE
P79.99/700-825 GMS.
REG. PRICE P99.99

JUMBO BBQ CHICKEN 1 PIECE
P169.90
REG. PRICE P189.90
Available only at:
MAKATI, ROCKWELL, KATIPUNAN

GARDENIA CLASSIC 600 G
P29.90
REG. PRICE P30.90

FRESH CHICKEN SAUSAGE
P79.99/700-825 GMS.
REG. PRICE P99.99

JUMBO BBQ CHICKEN 2 PIECES
P329.90
REG. PRICE P369.90
Available only at:
MAKATI, ROCKWELL, KATIPUNAN

CHOCOLATE SPONGE CAKE
P99.99
REG. PRICE P109.99

FRESH PORK SAUSAGE
P79.99/700-825 GMS.
REG. PRICE P99.99

HUNGARIAN SAUSAGE
P349.90/KI
REG. PRICE P425.00
Available only at:
MAKATI, ROCKWELL, KATIPUNAN

GARDENIA THICK SLICE
P29.90
REG. PRICE P30.90

LAMB GRILLING CHOPS
P280.00
Buy 1 Take 1

Rustan
SUPERMARKETS
Fresh

3-DAY
SUPER SPECIAL
SALE!
APRIL 29-MAY 1 ONLY.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1652, Series of 2002

FRESH MEAT/DELICATESSEN AND BAKESHOP ITEMS are available at all branches.

*PRODUCE AND SEAFOOD ITEMS are available at these 8 branches only:
MAKATI • ROCKWELL • KATIPUNAN • CUBAO • SHANGRI-LA PLAZA
HARRISON PLAZA • SAN ANTONIO, FORBES PARK • STAR MALL (MANUELA)

ALIMALL • AYALA ALABANG • BANAWE • BONI • EDSA-TAFT • FAIRVIEW • FARMER'S PLAZA • LIBERTAD • MARIKINA • MERCEDES • TAYTAY • STA. ROSA, LAGUNA

Rock landscapes agleam with gemlike tones

By Constantino C. Tejero

JEWEL colors suffuse the rocks, stones and boulders of Enzo's work in oil on canvas, a series ongoing through the years, with the latest batch of 10 pieces being displayed until May 2 in the Metropolitan Art Gallery at Artwalk, 4/F Building A, SM Megamall, in an exhibit titled "Recent Discoveries."

Related in texture and subject to Juvenal Sansó's rock-and-water series, Enzo's quarry series, however, widely diverges in colorism from the former's monochrome. These pieces are more like products of Fauvism.

Sansó's curling lines give a sense of movement, a semblance of life, to his biomorphic rocks, so that they look like animate objects, living things, as if breathing, stirring from primordial mud. In Enzo's case, the effusion of colors and the hard-edged texture lend an exuberance of emotions—very strong emotions—to his piles of rectangular rocks.

In several pieces, the rock formations are just repeated, the cropped tree trunks, sun's orb, flight of birds, rush and whirl of water and wisps of vegetation are the same—but seen from varying angles, with changes of colors, or in various degrees of vividness of hues and intensity of light, as if observed by an impressionist naturalist-photographer from dawn till dusk.

Each piece is highly textured. Texture, both visual and tactile, has been created by the close placement of curvilinear elements, the clashing arrangement of vivid hues and the impasto rendered by the palette knife.

Enduring fascination

Particularly vivid are "Topaz Morning" and "A View of Dolemite Valley." In the first, the landscape is awash with the gold from the rising sun, bringing to full light the jewel colors of orange, yellow and vermilion. In the second, the twilight's gleam illumes the burnt sienna, violet and indigo.

The concept behind this wild coloration is simple, but the conceit is ingenious. What's visible on the surface of these rock formations are actually the precious and semiprecious stones that should be lying underneath.

When you powder a rock, you reveal the ruby, the opal, emerald, gold, turquoise, diamond, sapphire, topaz, lapis lazuli, the artist explains. "*Kaya ganyan ang kulay.*"

He says he has a fascination for rock formations and quarries ever since. He remembers treks on the rocky mountain paths of Montalban, Rizal, where he grew up, and vacations in Baguio, when he would crane his neck at the gray rock faces carved along Kennon Road.

"*Alam mo naman nang mga* childhood *pa natin,*" he says of that enduring fascination, which he took up as subject for his art only in the late 1990s.

Asked if there's a particular artist who has influenced him, Enzo expresses admiration for the colorism of American sports illustrator Leroy Nieman.

"Botero I like," he continues. "Chagall and Rothko in college, yes. Lee Aguinaldo, among the locals. *Nagugustuhan ko lang ang mga gawa nila,* but I can't say they have influenced me, in the sense *na ginagaya ko ang trabaho nila.*"

Enduring artwork

He used to paint in acrylic, but he works exclusively with oil these days.

"If you're going to sell an artwork, it has to last long," he explains. "*Ang* oil *talagang matibay,* although *masama sa* lungs. With oil on canvas, the color doesn't change. If it's done in acrylic on masonite, or watercolor on paper, the artwork won't last as long. Even hardwood *puwedeng anayin pa.*"

He's preparing for his next exhibit in October, a series of paintings of rotund women in aerobics, in the style of Fernando Botero. This will be mixed with more rock paintings, but more abstract this time.

Born Lorenzo Villanueva Jr., he assumed his father's nickname after Lorenzo senior died. Now in his early 50s, he is of the generation of Lamaroza, Lebajo, Raul Isidro.

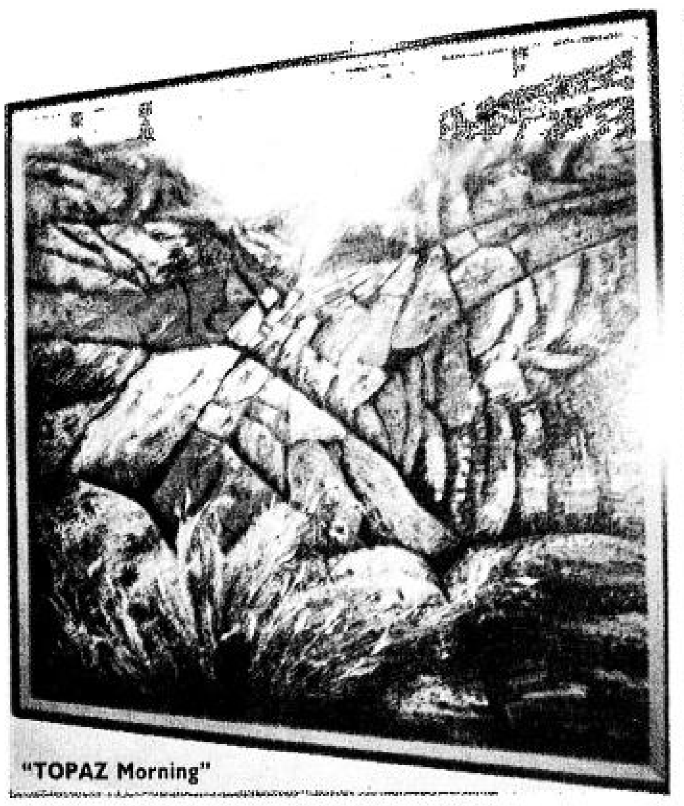
He took up fine arts in the Philippine Women's University, meanwhile winning numerous awards in students art competitions, in drawing (charcoal), painting (acrylic and oil), even in sculpture (adobe and stainless steel).

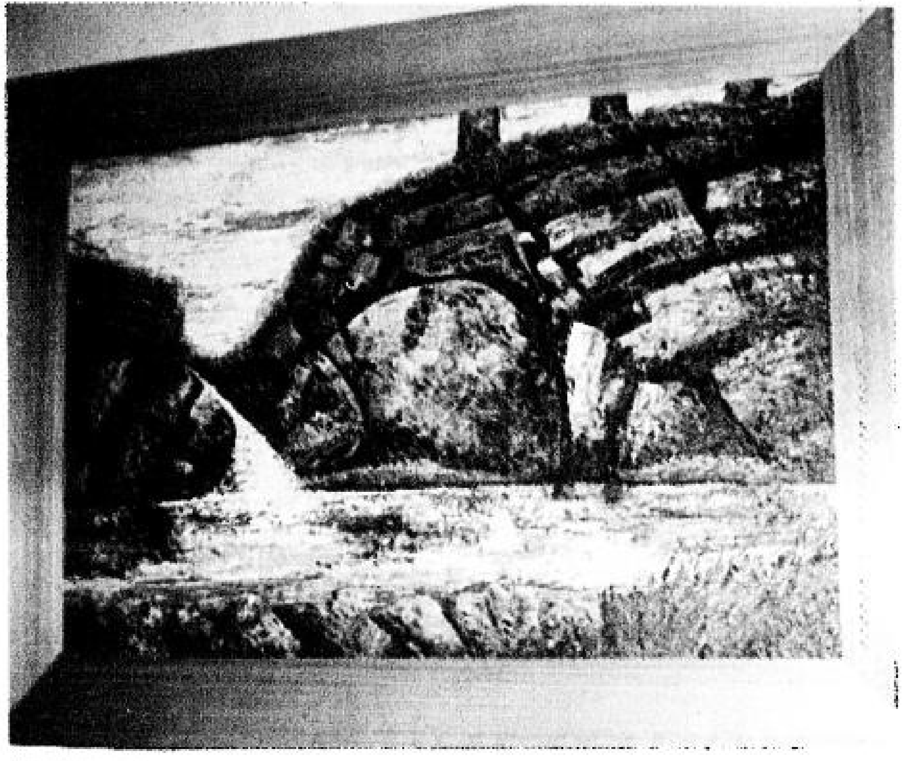
He disappeared from the Manila art scene when he took up Advanced Studies in Painting at the Pratt Institute of Art and Design in New York.

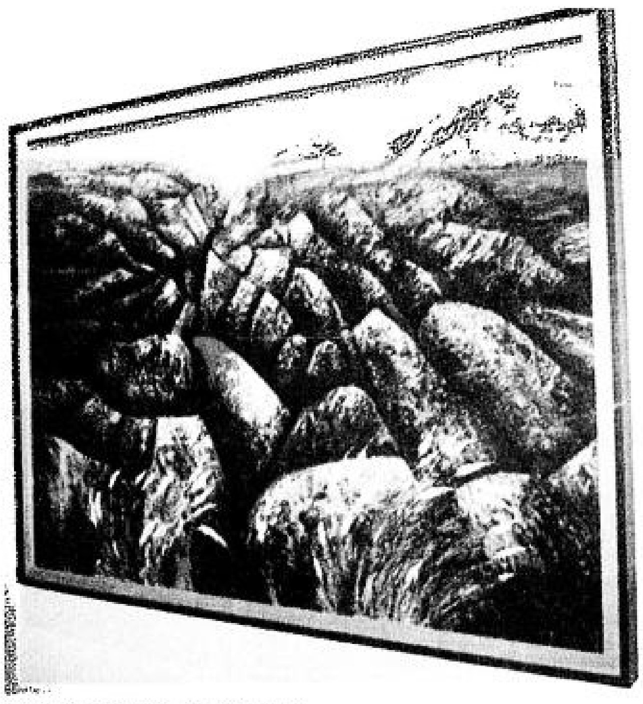
For almost 20 years, he settled in the United States, where he opened a gallery, taught art to children and won more prizes in art competitions. He stayed in New York, New Jersey, Florida, before coming back to Manila in the early 1990s.

In 1993, Enzo won the grand prize in mixed media at the Art Association of the Philippines annual competition with his relief painting, a piece in oil, adobe and metal cutouts.

"That's when they knew I had come back," he laughs.


"TOPAZ Morning"


"UNTITLED"


"A VIEW of Dolemite Valley"

Kabayaos in 'Maestro Filipino' concert

HUSBAND and wife musicians Gilopez Kabayao, violinist, and Corazon Pineda Kabayao, pianist, will perform in the "Maestro Filipino V" concert at 7: 30 p.m. April 30 at the Philamlife Theater, UN Avenue, Manila.

The concert series is produced by the Far Eastern Broadcasting Network (FEBC), home of FM radio station 98.7 dzFE, the country's only classical music station.

Performing with the Kabayaos in Chausson's concert is a string quartet composed of violinists Mary Grace Martinez and Maurice Ivan Saraza, violist Lauro Valentino Cad and cellist Joseph Rodriguez.

Tickets to "Maestro Filipino V" are at P500 and P300, available at the theater and at the station offices at Room 2608, 26th floor, Cityland 10 Tower I, HV de la Costa St., Salcedo Village, Makati City, or at the Development and Communications Group, FEBC compound, 62 Karuhatan Road, Valenzuela City. Students and senior citizens get a 50% discount. For more information, call dzFE at 810-3896, 810-3835.

UST entry wins Nayong Pilipino redesign contest

TWO architecture students from the University of Sto. Tomas won the grand prize in the recent Nayong Pilipino Conceptual Master Plan Design Competition.

Karen Cheung and Jason Buensalido designed what will be the master plan of the new Nayong Pilipino. They received a P200,000 grant from the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA), which conducted the nationwide search with the Nayong Pilipino Foundation Inc.

Second prize went to the Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila team of Benjamin Cabigting, April Balubar, Rafael Banaag III, Cipriano Gabayno III, Anne Maureen Lozano and Edward San Gabriel. They received a P120,000 grant.

The UP Diliman team of Cristina Angeles, Mia Roselle de Guzman, Mary Bridget Josef, Mark Anthony Nieva, Mark Anthony Marcos and Diana Zaragoza won third place and an P80,000 grant.

The board of judges, headed by architect Augusto Villalon, cited the grand-prize winning design for its broad vision of how to present Philippine culture and geography, emphasizing the educational value of Nayong Pilipino. Villalon lauded the creativity of all the young architects, echoing the theme of the ceremonies, "Tiwala sa Kabataang Pilipino—Pagsibol ng mga Dalubhasang Batang Arkitekto."

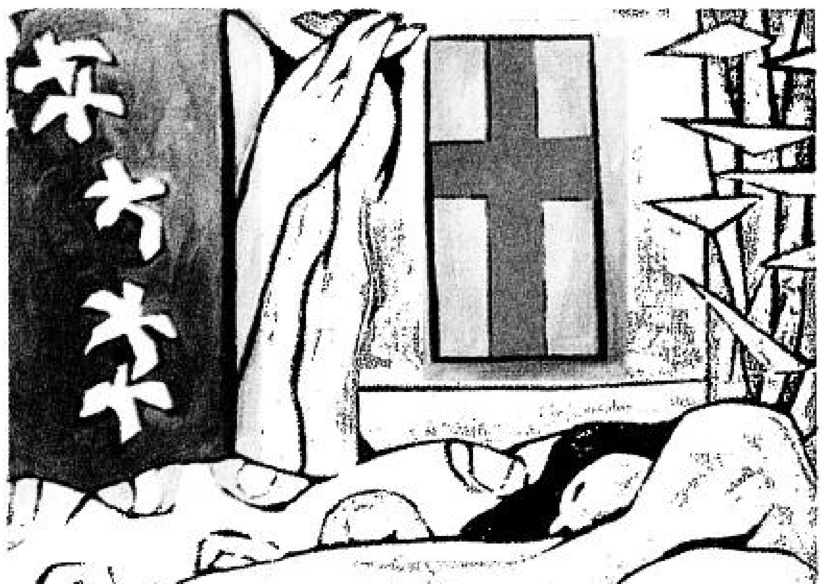
Tourism Secretary Richard Gordon was special guest during the award ceremonies that paid tribute to both the eminent national artists behind the original Nayong Pilipino and the young professionals who seek to preserve their legacy.

Besides the three winning teams, semifinalists included two teams from UP, another from UST and one each from Aquinas University (Legazpi, Albay), Bulacan State University, Leyte Institute of Technology and the Polytechnic University of the Philippines.

The different design plans will remain on exhibit until today at the lobby of the NCCA building on Gen. Luna Street, Intramuros.

Other judges were McCann-Erickson chair Emily Abrera, National Museum executive director Corazon S. Alvina, Landscape Architects of the Phils. president Efren Aurelio, UP professor Felipe M. de Leon Jr. of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Philippine Commission, Cultural Center of the Philippines' president Nestor Jardin, NCCA member and "Travel Time" producer-host Susan Calo Medina.

The redesign of Nayong Pilipino was prompted by the expansion of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminal 3, which will eat up 10 hectares of the park.


"UNNOTICED"

Lovers and other strangers heat up the art scene

From page F4

clasped together, their bodies quietly superimposed on each other, as their downcast faces reveal a sense of total abandon. The atmosphere is fraught with lust and danger, as symbolized by the cat fretfully chasing the mouse.

The cat-and-mouse motif surfaces again in "Ignored," where cropped bodies of lovers in a tryst compete with the image of the animals, and a chilled bottle of champagne ineluctably intensifies the ceremony.

Escora delineates these moments of seduction and bliss with the deadly air of sarcasm, irony and wit. While he is admittedly guided by a postmodern sensibility in his figuration, he draws heavily on surreal tricks to let his message come tellingly across. He is, moreover, keen on testing the possibilities of capturing the moment, of forever preserving that precious frame, when the image must speak a thousand ecstatic words. And simultaneously releasing a million orgasmically charged life-bearing substance.

Obsessed with objects

Juan Alcazaren, on the other hand, is an artist more obsessed with objects than people, and the seemingly endless objectification of humankind's pursuit of time and space.

In his current show, the UP-educated landscape architecture major has assembled an infinitesimal collection of diverse sculptural pieces that he has fashioned, refurbished and reinvented from discarded objects.

Called "Space Tourist" (Finale, until May 3), the collection of 100-odd objects sports an oddly endearing trait: they look like flying objects fired up by the imagination. Ranging from discarded toys, tools, kitchenware, home gadgets, odds and ends of the domicile, all plucked from the trash receptacle, these objects have taken on a refreshingly new and distinctive look. A great deal of them further reveals their maker's obsessive recycling mania, which is well and good, as far as the environment is concerned.

But what is even more astonishing with Alcazaren's assembly of found and revived gadgetry is his limitless wizardry at fleshing each one of these pieces into a distinct, unique, one-of-a-kind object. Either way you look at this exhibit, one is hooked completely and will most likely pick up the habit of recycling everything and anything to give it a new lease on life.

E-mail the author at gdormiendo@yahoo.com

PHSA bares art scholars for 2002-2003

THE PHILIPPINE High School for the Arts (PHSA), through its Annual Nationwide Search for Young Art Scholars (Ansyas), announces the results of the regional tests and auditions held last October to December.

Of the 633 Grade VI and VII pupils who participated, 40 made it to this year's roster of freshmen scholars. Below is the list of successful applicants.

Creative writing—Amanda Socorro L. Echanis (NCR), Larissa M. Suarez (NCR), Godofredo M. Ramizo (Region 3); Dance (ballet)—Archie V. de Villa (Region 4), Kazier S. Policarpio (NCR), Ma. Danella C. Publico (Region 4), Ma. Theresa A. Villanueva (Region 11), Maria Theresa D. Winder (NCR), Ronelson P. Yadao (NCR);

Dance (folk)—Riel B. Bulos (Region 4), Jairo A. Ibarrientos (Region 5), Hazel L. Medrano (Region 4), La Donna M. Nanuli (Region 4), Joseth Paola K. Quilaton (NCR), John Ray N. Villaceran (Region 6);

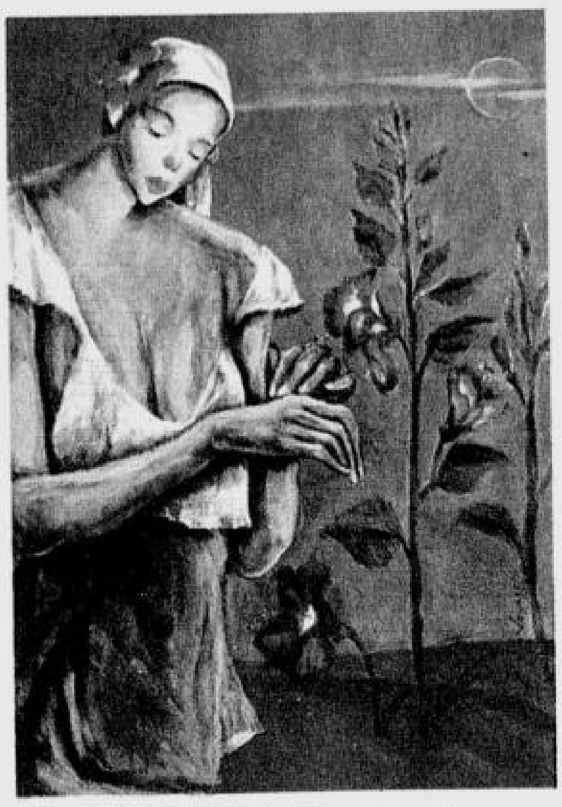
Music (voice and instrument)—Clarice Gwynne L. de la Torre (Region 8), Beah Darda C. Gumarang (NCR), Katerina P. Hernandez (Region 4), Suzette Marie L. Liwag (NCR), Jaenna Catherine K. Peralta (Region 1), Macario P. Postrano III (Region 12), Jude V. Tadeo (NCR), Shantyl Marie G. Toralballa (Region 6);

Theater arts—Acey Bryle T. Aguilar (NCR), Abner T. Delina Jr. (Region 6), Russ Narcies A. Gabico (Region 9), Alvin M. Obillo (NCR), Amihan C. Ruiz (NCR), Lakhi M. Siap (Region 7);

Visual Arts—Kristella Mariz B. Anas (Region 11), Ma. Janea G. Balquin (NCR), Rollie B. Florano (NCR), Mariela Anne Monique M. Flores (Region 7), Janne Rae T. Gonzales (NCR), Andrea Kristine G. Molina (Region 5), Frances Candelaria P. Pacheco (Region 4), Regina Carmeli D. Regala (NCR), Hannah Laya B. Resurreccion (NCR), Jeff Mercel H. Sayson (Region V) and Louise Jashil R. Sonido (Region XII).

They will be awarded full secondary education scholarship and art training at the PHSA campus situated on the slopes of Mt. Makiling, National Arts Center Complex, Los Baños, Laguna. Other privileges include free board and lodging, a monthly stipend, classes with local and foreign master artists, plus the chance to represent the country in local and international art festivals and competitions.

Visit the Annual Nationwide Search for Young Art Scholars office or call Reynaldo O. Wong at (049) 536-5972 or Leamor T. Aliangan at 832-3665/1120 local 112.



"GUMAMELA" by Lydia Velasco, at West Gallery

Velasco at West Gallery; De Leon at Galleria Duemila; Nuestro at The Drawing Room

LYDIA Velasco's women are still provocative but somehow subtler as will be revealed in her latest one-woman exhibit, "Flores de Mayo," at the West Gallery, 4/L SM Megamall A, Mandaluyong City, May 2-14.

Velasco uses flowers in her work because she thinks women and flowers share an affinity, enhancing each other's "personality." "Flores de Mayo" demonstrates that flowers can be many things to a beholder. Call 634-1284.

DE LEON AT GALLERIA DUEMILA. "Fun!," a selection of R.M. de Leon's mental and visual experiments done in acrylic on paper, will be shown May 3-16 at Galleria Duemila, 4/L SM Megamall A, Mandaluyong City.

VISUAL ARTS

NUESTRO AT THE DRAWING ROOM. Bob Nuestro presents his latest works on paper at The Drawing Room, Metrostar Building, 1007 Metropolitan Ave., Makati City until May 15. Dubbed "Veiling," the show looks into the unresolved thoughts on fear and anxiety, and the ongoing quest to understand of what is pure and ideal by the artist, who is known for his minimal and meditative abstract works. Call 897-6990/7877.

RUIZ AT BOSTON GALLERY. Multiawarded artist Ronaldo Ruiz will present "Love/Lust," a trimedia exhibit of paintings, installation and performance art at Boston Gallery, 6 p.m., May 11. The exhibit will run until May 27. Call 722-9205.

GROUP EXHIBIT. The Arte Pintura group is holding an exhibit commemorating its fifth anniversary, with the special participation of renowned artist Malang, at the GSIS Museum on June 4.

ART FESTIVAL. Pinto Art Gallery celebrates the pilgrimage month with the launching of the Antipolo Maytime Arts Festival on May 5.

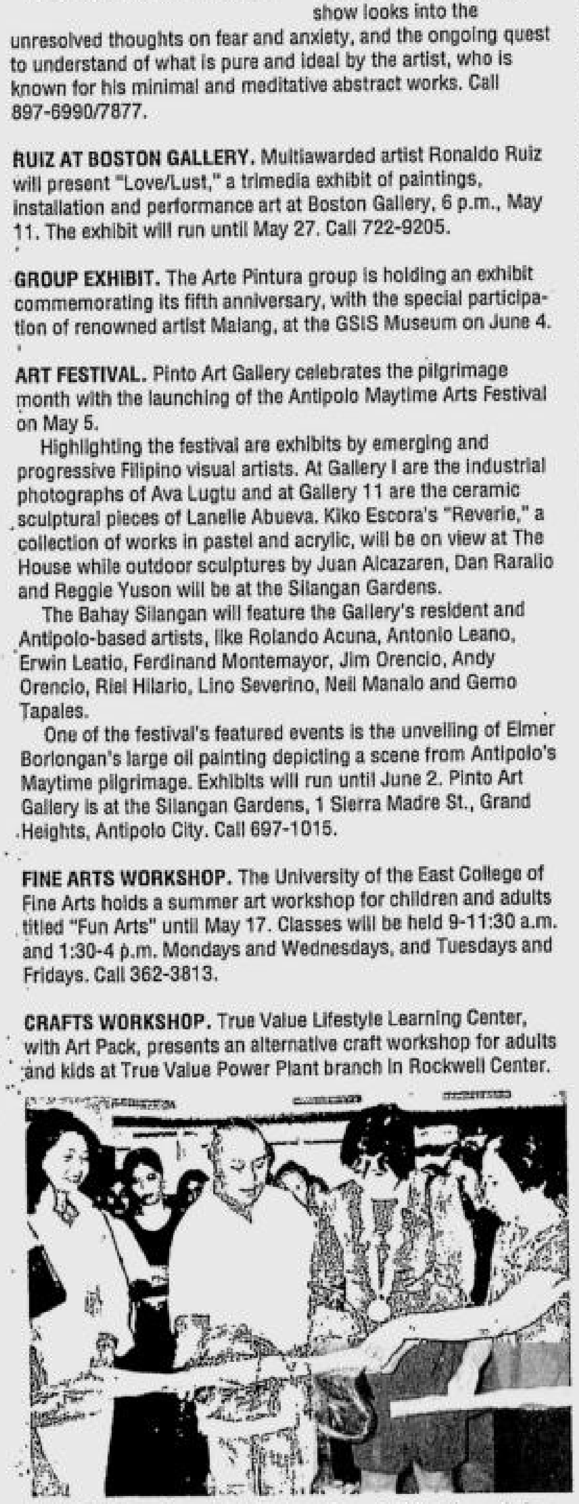
Highlighting the festival are exhibits by emerging and progressive Filipino visual artists. At Gallery I are the industrial photographs of Ava Lugtu and at Gallery 11 are the ceramic sculptural pieces of Lanelle Abueva. Kiko Escora's "Reverie," a collection of works in pastel and acrylic, will be on view at The House while outdoor sculptures by Juan Alcazaren, Dan Raralio and Reggie Yuson will be at the Silangan Gardens.

The Bahay Silangan will feature the Gallery's resident and Antipolo-based artists, like Rolando Acuna, Antonio Leano, Erwin Leatio, Ferdinand Montemayor, Jim Orencio, Andy Orencio, Riel Hilario, Lino Severino, Neil Manalo and Gemo Tapales.

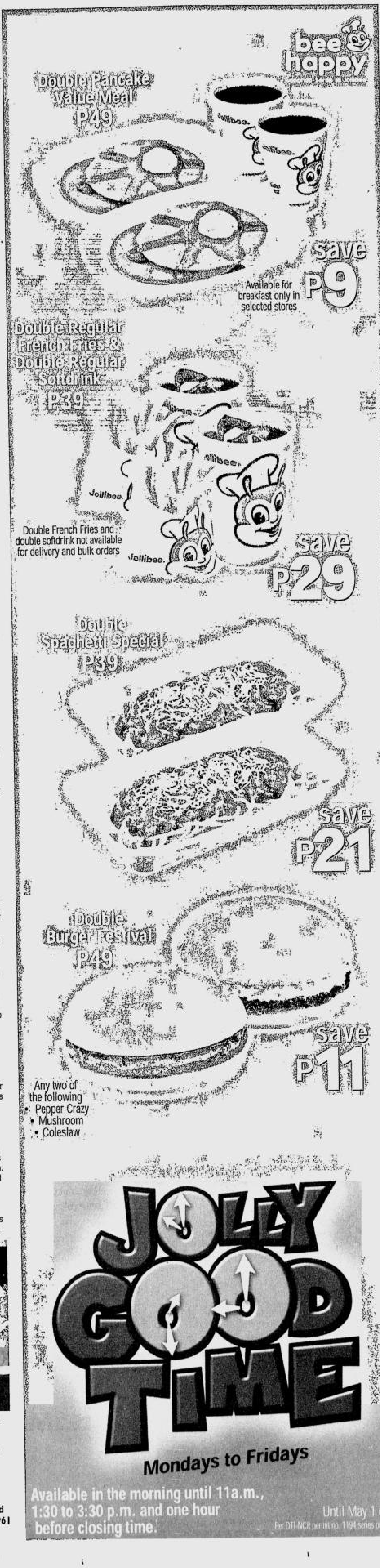
One of the festival's featured events is the unveiling of Elmer Borlongan's large oil painting depicting a scene from Antipolo's Maytime pilgrimage. Exhibits will run until June 2. Pinto Art Gallery is at the Silangan Gardens, 1 Sierra Madre St., Grand Heights, Antipolo City. Call 697-1015.

FINE ARTS WORKSHOP. The University of the East College of Fine Arts holds a summer art workshop for children and adults titled "Fun Arts" until May 17. Classes will be held 9-11:30 a.m. and 1:30-4 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, and Tuesdays and Fridays. Call 362-3813.

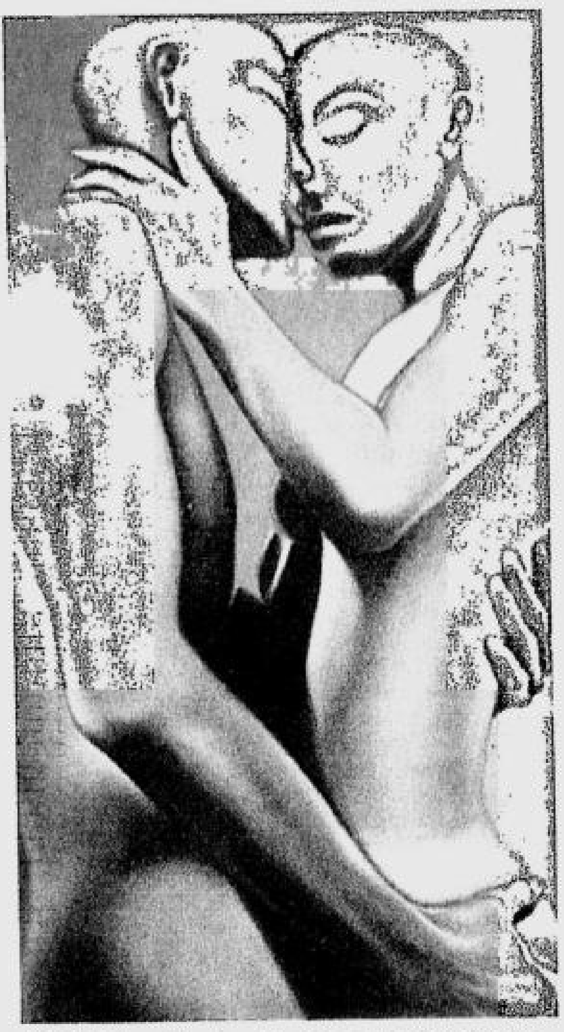
CRAFTS WORKSHOP. True Value Lifestyle Learning Center, with Art Pack, presents an alternative craft workshop for adults and kids at True Value Power Plant branch in Rockwell Center. Call 899-1985, 895-2318 or (0917) 793-4229, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. or visit True Value, Power Plant Mall.



ARTIST Eva Factor, director Dennis Miralles of the Board of Investments and Luchi Asuncion, country manager of the Integrated Marketing Services (Phils.) Inc., assisted by Milagros Lane, manager of Silahis Arts and Artifacts, are shown cutting the ceremonial ribbon during the recent opening of "Munting Simula," first solo exhibit of Nik Masangcay Jr., at Silahis Arts and Artifacts, Glorietta. Fifteen watercolor paintings are featured in the exhibit, which runs until May 17. Call 728-4961 or 527-2113.



bee happy
Double Pancake Value Meal P49
save P9
Available for breakfast only in selected stores
Double Regular French Fries & Double Regular Softdrink P39
Double French Fries and double softdrink not available for delivery and bulk orders
save P29
Double Spaghetti Special P39
save P21
Double Burger Festival P49
save P11
Any two of the following: • Pepper Crazy • Mushroom • Coleslaw
JOLLY GOOD TIME
Mondays to Fridays
Available in the morning until 11a.m., 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. and one hour before closing time.
Until May 1 only
Per DTI-NCR permit no. 1194 series of 2002



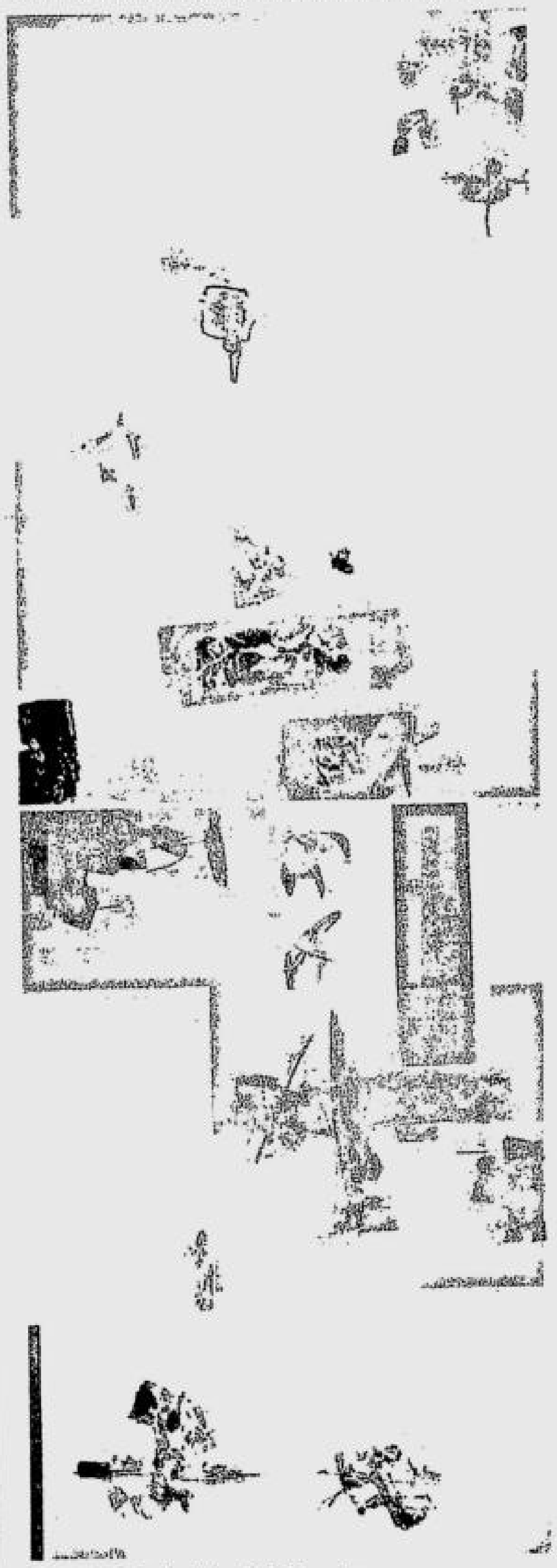
"FIRST Timer" by Ronaldo Ruiz, at Boston Gallery

STORYTELLING AND TOY MAKING. On May 11 and 18, Filipinas Heritage Library will host Toys and Stories Summer Fest, a storytelling and toy-making session that celebrates the excitement of summer. Storyteller Melody Remorca comes back with more exciting tales on values and discovery. Admission fee is P100, inclusive of materials. Call 892-1801. Filipinas Heritage Library is on Makati Avenue.

SEMINAR. A seminar on Basic Curatorship is offered at the UP Vargas Museum, Roxas Avenue, University of the Philippines, Diliman, QC, May 11-12. Call 928-1927 or 920-5301 local 7408.

ART CLASSES. US-based teachers are conducting the Summertime Art Classes at Academy One, BF Homes, Parañaque City. Danny and November Ochoa from the Academy of Art College, San Francisco, and Monica Luna from St. Joseph's School, San Francisco, will give kids aged 3-8 and 9-18 fresh and fun ways to learn art techniques—from basic drawing, shading, perspective, color, cartooning, among others, in just 10 sessions. Enrollment is ongoing. Call 826-5182.

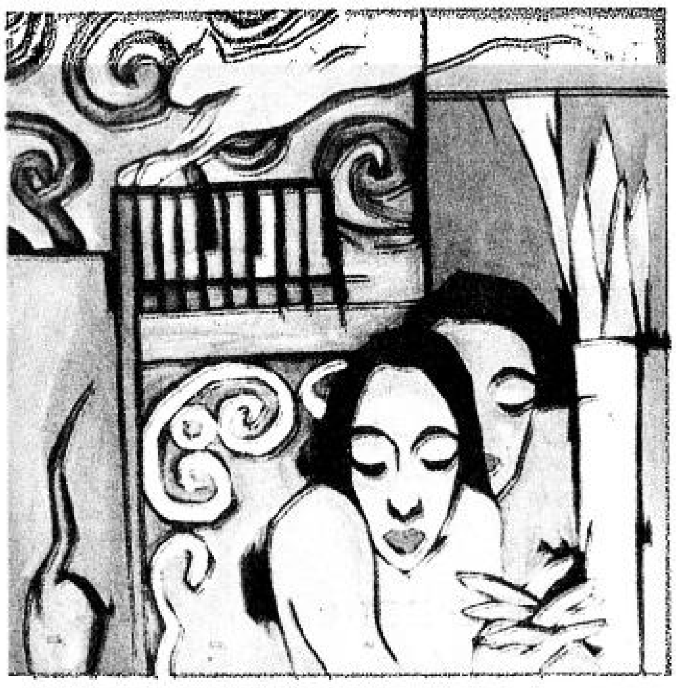
WORKSHOP. Multiawarded artist Thomas Daquioag holds The Beginners Class, a workshop for adults and kids, every Monday and Wednesday until May 8, 2-5 p.m., at the Galeria de las Islas, 3/F Silahis Center, 744 Gen. Luna St., Intramuros, Manila. There will be eight sessions. Call 527-2113/3842.



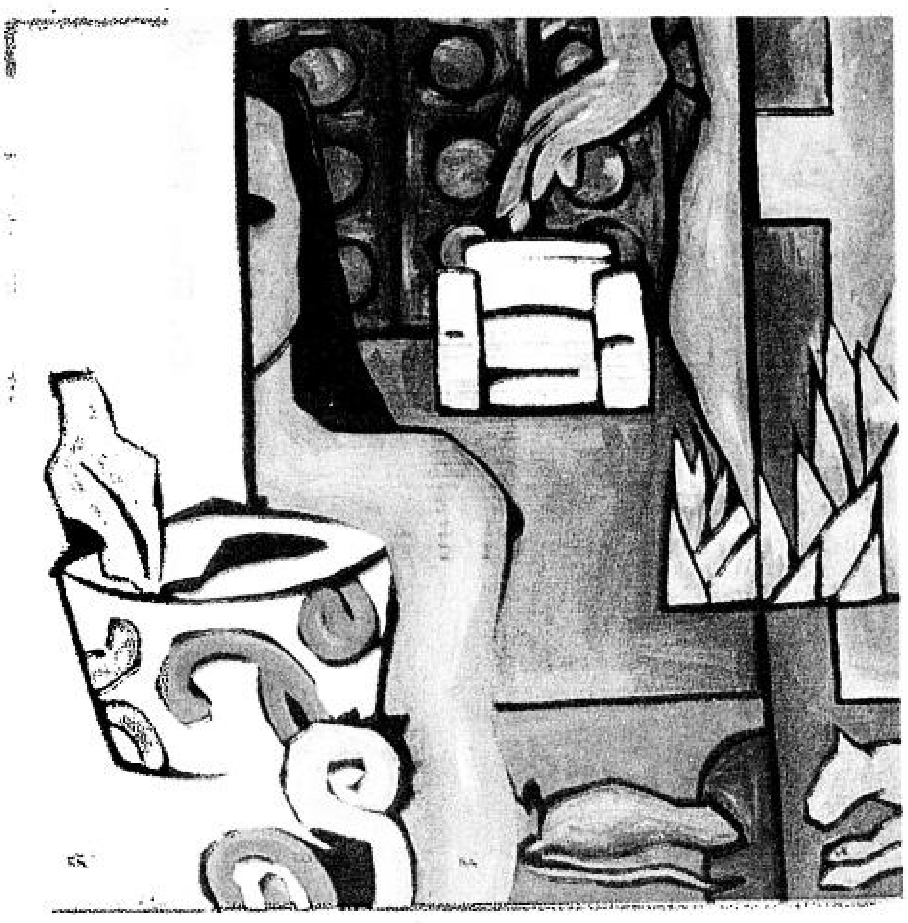
"VEILING Series" by Bob Nuestro

Lovers and other strangers heat up the art scene

By Gino Dormiendo
Contributor



"TOUCHED"



"IGNORED"

PASSIONS of the most intimate kind rage in the simmering heat of summer and even more graphically in Fernando Escora's new canvases. Lovers—the subject that animates his oeuvre—are caught in the most intimate moment, fervidly communicating their emotions through gestures, body contortions, facial expressions and, we may as well add, the interiors of the boudoir.

Escora, we recall, had previously exhibited works that delved into sexual romp and fantasy in "Emotional Baggage," a show organized by the Tam-awan Village in Baguio, where the artist demonstrated his uncanny skills in creating both transparency and movement by way of his expressive overlapping of lines.

The new suite of paintings, "Moment: Interior and Figure" (The Crucible Gallery, until May 3), explores a far simpler manner of freezing that blissful moment when lovers are united in Eros' name, their bodies locked, merged, entwined and fused in furious and gentle lovemaking. The protagonists' androgynous presence are perhaps the artist's concession to keeping the gender issue well at bay, fully aware that lovers come in all shades and stripes, and sexual stereotypes have no place in his canvases.

In "Unnoticed," Escora delineates two characters, presumably both women, one curled up in bed in a fetal position, while the other, from the rear view, surveys the scene like a voyeur in search of new gratification. In the center, the figure of a cross looms not far behind, a grim reminder of the losing battle waged by philistines.

The lovers have already crossed the threshold of intimacy in "Touched," their hands firmly

LOVERS/ p.F2

FURNITURE & BATHROOM FIXTURES
Sale!
APRIL 30 - MAY 15, 2002

Available Stocks: Furniture made of rattan, sofas, dining tables, Kohler & Sterling bathroom fixtures

Multinational Village
UNI OIL
COCA COLA
DUTY FREE
Enter the KYMCO Gate and Showroom awaits (VICTORIA EXPORTS & IMPORTS, INC.)

Victoria Exports & Imports, Inc.
@ ACCESS RD., MULTINATIONAL VILL., PARAÑAQUE CITY
(NEAR DUTY FREE) • TEL. NOS. 800-1041/ 812-8478/ 822-1056/ 600-10141

Gates
3,6,9,12

Pay your travel expenses in 3, 6, 9 or 12 easy monthly installments at only 1.5% interest per month with:

Metrobank Credit Cards'
Travel Power Pay

Avail of Metrobank credit cards' Travel Power Pay in just 4 easy steps:

1. Get an original copy of your travel agency's quotation or any proof of travel by air, sea or land* (travel must be completed anytime between October 1, 2001 to June 30, 2002).
2. Present your documents to the Unibancard Corp. main office, its regional offices or to any one of **over 500 Metrobank branches nationwide.**
3. Choose your installment plan.
4. Get your reimbursement check within the hour.

With Metrobank credit cards, paying for travel expenses has never been so worry-free!

*Reimbursable items are the following:
- Airline, shipping line and land transportation tickets
- Car rental receipts
- Local and foreign package tours inclusive of hotel accommodation

METROBANK VISA

The Power To Enjoy Life
Member: Metrobank Group

For inquiries, please call our 24-hour, 7-day customer service hotline:
8-700-700 or when outside Metro Manila, 1-800-1-888-5775 domestic toll-free or visit Unibancard Corp. at 15/F, PSBank Tower, Sen. Gil Puyat Ave. cor. Tindalo St., Makati City. Fax Nos.: (632) 845-0118; (632) 845-0132; (632) 759-5846
Minimum availment of P3,000.00 is applicable only at Metrobank branches. Promo period is from April 1 to June 30, 2002.
Per DTI - NCR Permit no. 0900 Series of 2002

Ocean Adventure
SUBIC BAY
THE PREMIER MARINE PARK
Tel. No.: (047)2529000
Website: www.oceanadventure.com.ph

MONDAY,
APRIL 29, 2002

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
For feedback, text us at (0918)917-5026 or email us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph
LIFESTYLE

Tag-init Treat!
Save up to ₱33!
A dozen donuts of any variety for only
₱120
DUNKIN' DONUTS

WHEN THE ELEPHANTS DANCE
a novel
Tess Uriza Holthe

A graceful retelling of treasured lore

Books

This Fil-Am author's novel is a haunting and haunted tale that is soothingly close to home

When the Elephants Dance: A Novel
By Tess Uriza Holthe
Crown Publishers, New York, 2002
368 pages

By Ruel S. De Vera

REVIEW

"EVER since I can remember, my father and *lola* (grandmother), who were both Filipino, entertained my family with tales of the supernatural, stories of ghosts and witches, always told with delicious darkness and magic." Thus begins Tess Uriza Holthe's author's note for her novel, "When the Elephants Dance."

The US-born Holthe adds that she remembers her grandparents' and parents' heartbreaking tales of World War II. "Growing up, I longed to find the kind of fictional stories of the Philippines that I was told by my father and *lola*, but the shelves in the libraries held only travel guides. This book is my humble contribution to the empty shelf that I always longed to fill."

"When the Elephants Dance" fills that shelf and expands to occupy a virtual library's space of technique and treasured lore. Holthe's novel brims with research and remembered tales, but is also an engaging, poignant read. Filipinos know the folklore and harrowing occupation stories that Holthe utilizes—some even experienced them firsthand—but she ties them together in a delightful narrative. Furthermore, "When the Elephants Dance" is a patient novel, trying very hard to impart the surreal, supernatural and emotional stories, tales we already know and understand well, to audiences experiencing them for the very first time.

A GRACEFUL/ p.G2

WEIGH LESS CENTER
Cosmetic and Plastic Surgery
DISCOVER NEW MEANINGS OF BEAUTY
BODY
POWER LIPO
Tummy tuck
Breast Augmentation/ Reduction
Thigh/Buttocks Lift
Scar Revision
Varicose Veins
FACE
Noselift
Eyebags
Deep setting
Slit eye
FACELIFT Brow/ Temporal
Cheek/Chin/Dimples Augmentation
Mendez Medical Group
WEIGH LESS CENTER & SPA, 31-G Rocos Ave., Q.C.
373-0766 / 374-2437 / 371-8886
371-8887 / 373-3365 / 373-3366
ALL CLIENTS ARE SCHEDULED BY APPOINTMENT

WE'RE OPENING NEW CLASSES!
Enroll in a Package - P 2,300 per course
- Speech Dynamics: Develop & Master Oral Skills
- Practical Grammar & Conversations: Gain fluency & Mastery of English
  Mon, Wed, Fri 9:00-1:00 P.M. (May 15-27)
  Tues. & Thurs 9:00-1:00 P.M. (May 14-30)
- *Rapid Reading & Comprehension*
  Saturdays 9:00-12:00 NN (May 4-25)
  or 1:00-4:00 P.M. (May 4-25)
- *Power Talking Skills: Public Speaking and Confidence Building*
- *Written Communication*
- *Personality In Action*

KIDDIE ACADEMY (3 TO 15 yrs. old)
Speech Arts, Theater Arts, Reading & Comprehension, Grammar, English Fluency, Character Building, Personality Development
Mon & Wed 9:00-1:00 P.M. (May 13-29)
Tues & Thurs 9:00-1:00 P.M. (May 14-30)
WCT Wilma Cruz-Tapalla
ACADEME OF SPEECH AND PERSONALITY
LEGARDA, SAMPALOC
2600 Rizal Hall, Arellano University
736-7656
736-7657
736-7644
Since 1967
Horizon Condo., Meralco Ave. Ortigas Center
687-7139
687-7149
638-8034

DISCOVER ANOTHER YOU
EMCEEING & HOSTING
SEMINAR - WORKSHOP
A hands-on laboratory for individuals who would like to discover and develop their emceeing & hosting skills. Achieve confidence on stage!
- May 4, 5 & 6, 2002 / 9:00am - 6:00pm
- May 18, 19 & 20, 2002 / 9:00am - 6:00pm
EDSA SHANGRI-LA HOTEL
Mandaluyong City
conducted by
Mr. BUTCH ALBARRACIN
The country's leading trainor/educator in popular music and entertainment.
WE CAN ALSO BRING THE SEMINAR RIGHT IN THE COMFORTS OF YOUR OFFICE
FOR MORE INFORMATION, INQUIRE THROUGH
LEARNAX The Learning Access
A DIVISION OF CENTER FOR POP MUSIC PHILIPPINES INC.
73 Ermin Garcia St., Cubao, Q.C.
(back of Ramon Magsaysay Cubao High School)
Tels.: 723-9373 • 721-0714
727-5293 • 411-7310
IT'S MORE THAN JUST A SEMINAR. IT'S ENTERTAINMENT!

FEEL GOOD. LOOK GOOD. BOOST YOUR SELF-CONFIDENCE.
Bust Lift & Augmentation
TRUST ONLY THE EXPERT CARE BY A QUALIFIED COSMETIC SURGEON!
- Warts Removal (Painless)
- Scar Revision
- Peeling and
- Body Bleaching
- Eyebag Removal
- Nose Lift
- Dermabrasion
- Varicose Vein
- Liposuction
- Double Eyelid
- Facial Treatment

Enhance
COSMETIC SURGERY & SKIN CARE CENTER
THE SM CITY NORTH EDSA
Annex Bldg. Basement Level
Tel. No.: 920-9205
MAIN OFC.: #32 Times St., cor. West 4, Quezon Ave., Q.C. • Tel. No.: 371-8189 FREE CONSULTATION

GETAWAY
RESORTS & HOTELS GUIDE
BOHOL
Crystal Coast
BOHOL GETAWAY 2002
3D/2N-TRI-SHARING P3,750
CHOCO HILLS & PANGLAO ISLAND TOUR
Mla: 634.2029 Main: (038) 411.3179
BORACAY
Boracay Rainforest Resort
SECLUDED WHITE SAND BEACH
CELL# (0917)3120123
BARKADA RATE Promo!!!
DELUXE P 200.00 / PAX
AIRCON P 300.00 / PAX
MINIMUM OF 8 PAX/COTTAGE
Waling-Waling BEACH HOTEL BORACAY
Avail Our Promo Package
Tel. 896-9456 to 58
Fax. 02-8969451
boracay@philonline.com
BULACAN
The LARGEST WAVEPOOL in the Country
8 WAVES WATERPARK
- WAVEPOOL & LAPPING-POOL
- KIDDIE POOL W/ NOAH'S ARK SLIDE
- 3 KING-SIZED BUBBLE POOLS
TEL: (044) 766-5268 / 766-2371 / 766-2492
Resort
MC ARTHUR HIGHWAY, BULACAN
☎ 711-7265 / 741-4480
OPEN 24 HOURS
10% DISCOUNT
ADULT P80.00
CHILDREN P40.00
FREE COTTAGE
FOR RESERVATION, CALL LARRY OR GRACE
LAGUNA
Riverview
RESORT & CONFERENCE CENTER
CALAMBA, LAGUNA www.riverview.com.ph
10% OFF SUMMER PROMO ON ALL ROOMS
MLA OFC: 925-8858
TEL.: (049)545-1856/2112
Royal Palm
RESORT & CONFERENCE CENTER BAY, LAGUNA
SEMINAR PACKAGE P 780 / PAX
- COMPANY & FAMILY OUTINGS
- GARDEN WEDDING W/ CARROZA
MLA. OFC. 531-3132 / 533-0693
TEL. (049) 249-3977
SUBIC
FOREST HILLS Village Resort SUBIC BAY
CALL NOW & GET AS MUCH AS 50% OFF
TELEFAX: 725-0354
TEL: 726-2541
LEGENDA
TEL. (02) 732-9888
SUBIC SUMMER PROMO
P 2,650+
Inclusive of B'fast for 2
Promo Period: Ongoing until 31 May '02
TAGAYTAY
MC MOUNTAIN HOME Tagaytay
PRIVILEDGE MEMBERSHIP
P 1,500++
(02) 850-5438
(046) 413-2232
(0917)794-7500
HOTELS / SUITES
BAYVIEW PARK HOTEL MANILA
"Your Home by the Bay"
WEEKEND FAMILY TREAT
ONLY Php 3,555++ FOR SATURDAY & SUNDAY STAY
W/ FREE BREAKFAST FOR FAMILY OF 4
526-1555 / 1-800-1888-5555
corp_sales@bayview.com.ph
FAX: 817-3942
SALES & RESERVATIONS:
813-7523/813-8553
CELL #: 0917-888-1-800
- EAGLE RIDGE, CAVITE
  Tel. No. (046) 509-3333
- STO. TOMAS, BATANGAS
  Tel. No. (043) 4056057
- LUISITA, TARLAC PLAZA LUISITA MALL
  Tel. No. (045) 9851770
- OR. MINDORO
  Tel. No. (043) 2862824
For Inquiries call: 912-8983

"You'd be surprised with what his 4-incher can do!"
ALCATEL
12:30
actual size

Introducing the new Alcatel One Touch 511. Small and compact, yet packed with enough features to blow your mind.
- EMS (Enhanced Messaging Service) allows you to send text, graphics, tones and smileys in one message
- Polyphonic ring tones of up to 8 instruments
- Composer and recorder functions
- 3 games in better resolution and polyphonic sound effects
- Lightweight (75 grams)
- Real aluminum front panel

P9,990.00
(open line)
ONE TOUCH 511
ALCATEL
Distributed by: Mobile Distribution Inc. Unit 501-502 Galleria Corporate Center, Edsa Q.C. Tel# 687-0577 / 687-0991

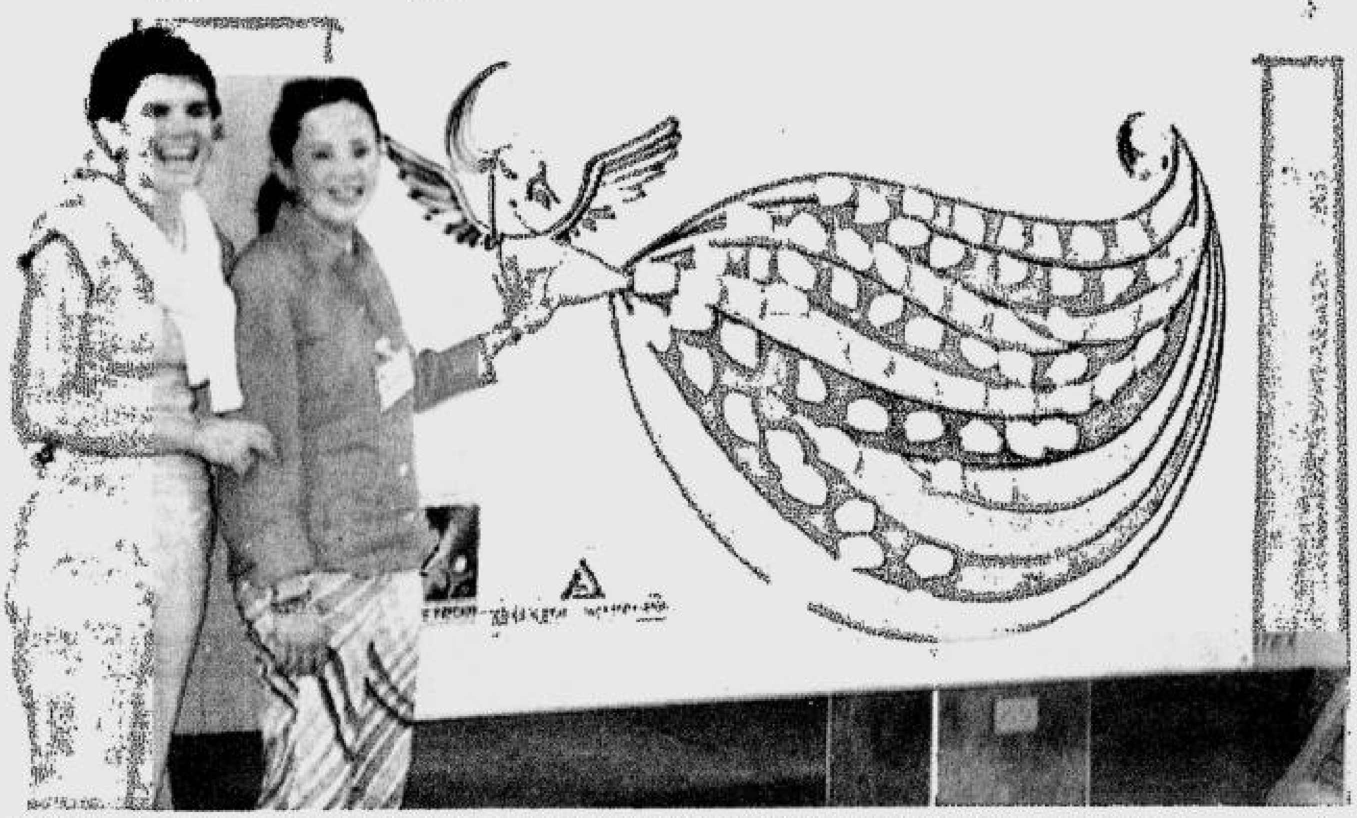
Dealers: **ABC STORE**, 622 JPIC Bldg. Shaw Blvd. Mandaluyong Tel.# 5330933 • **ADI TELECOMS**, 1408 Taipan Place Bldg., Emerald Ave. Ortigas Tel.# 6371011 • **BIANJEI**, Shoppesville Greenhills San Juan • **CELLTEX**, D12 Langka Lane Virramall, Greenhills Tel.# 7271739 • **CITY TECH**, Virramall San Juan • **CK CELLULAR NETWORK**, West Avenue Q.C. Tel.# 9222292 • **DIALCOMM TRADING**, Unit 1601 Galleria Corporate Center, EDSA Q.C. Tel.# 8890041 • **DIALOGUE COMMUNICATIONS**, 28/F Raffles Bldg. Emerald Ave. Ortigas Tel.# 9143780 • **DJGT**, Virramall San Juan • **GAMES AND GADGETS**, No.31 Ignacio Santos Diaz St. Cubao, Q.C. Tel# 7230920 • **GAMES AND GADGETS** (Cebu) 3/L, SM City Cebu Tel.#(032)2335700 • **GLOBOTEL**, Unit 117 Anson Arcade Bldg., Arnaiz Ave., Makati Tel.#8880103 • **GRAPHIC LIGHTS & DESIGNS**, Capt. Vicente Roa Ext. Cagayan de Oro Tel.# (088)8567991 • **MACTEL**, 1014-D Almeda Arcade Pasay Road, Makati Tel.# 8433062-66 • **MEGA CELLULAR NETWORK**, 1953-55 Buensalida Bldg. M. Adriatico Malate Tel.# 5265151 • **MEMOXPRESS**, Rm.813 Pacific Bldg. Quintin Paredes St. Binondo Tel#2439461-64 • **SELECTRONICS**, Park Square 1, Ayala Ctr. Makati Tel#8128389 • **SMARTLINK COMPUTER TRADING**, 6/L Shangri-la Plaza Mall, Mandaluyong Tel.# 6374168-69 • **TOPWIN**, Unit 7 Shoppers Mall II Cash & Carry Makati Tel.# 8180225 • **TOUCHCOMM PHILS**, 4/L Festival Supermall, Filinvest Alabang Tel.# 8501504 • **ULB INTERNATIONAL**, 3/L, SM Megamall Mandaluyong Tel.# 6357546 • **WELLCOM**, JMBC Bldg., San Isidro Makati Tel.# 8890041 • **WIRELESS CONNECTIONS**, Unit 406 Centerpoint Condo J. Vargas Ave., Ortigas Tel# 6381111

Read-a-thon creating new generation of readers

Text and photos by
Neni Sta. Romana-Cruz
Contributor

UNKNOWN to many, a reading revolution of sorts is taking place in Grade 4 classrooms in public schools in an urban center, the city of Marikina, and in a rural area, Nasugbu, Batangas.

Since mid-January and for one month, every class set aside every day one hour for a Read-a-thon during which students were exposed to some of the best titles in Philippine children's literature today, 20 books in Filipino and 20 books in English.



READING crusaders Lizzie Zobel and Margarita Delgado by the Ibong Adarna mural filling up with reading feathers

CRIS Villonco as reading role model on Sa Aklat Sisikat! poster

Making the set of brand-new books available in every participating Grade 4 classroom was necessary for the success of the Sa Aklat Sisikat (SAS) Foundation's literacy campaign. If today's children have not discovered the joy of reading it is because they did not have the opportunity to encounter books other than dreary textbooks, providing the books had to be an imperative. But that's getting ahead of the story, a good story.

> If today's children have not discovered the joy of reading, it is because they have not encountered books other than dreary textbooks

Two years ago, book lovers Lizzie Zobel and Margarita Delgado spearheaded, with Nina Lim-Yuson of Museo Pambata Foundation, a multi-tiered reading program for Manila public schools. The repertoire of activities is mind-boggling, including an eye examination program for Grade 1 students, the installation of literary landmarks with the Philippine Board on Books for Young People, book donations for public libraries, a storytelling series at the malls which led to the establishment of the Alitaptap Storytellers Club, Read-a-thon and Battle of the Books.

Nation of readers

Enriched (and perhaps wearied?) by that experience and realizing even more the need to promote the reading habit in the young, Lizzie and Margarita formalized the structure of the SAS Foundation. With the overwhelming problems the nation faces, SAS decided to focus on its vision of developing a nation of readers and concentrate on what is feasible given its resources and capabilities: the introduction of the Read-a-thon in various public schools in the country.

The reformatted literacy campaign was launched in partnership with Petron Foundation. The SAS Foundation board members include, aside from Lizzie and Margarita, Malu Erni of Petron Foundation, Doris Magsaysay-Ho, Genju Lapez, Gregg Marshall, Bobby de Ocampo, RayVi Sunico, Monique Villonco and this writer.

In choosing the city or the municipality for project implementation, it was decided that the local government must demonstrate a high level of interest in the project. No extra funding or requirement is required from the local government unit. It was only expected to facilitate SAS coordination with the Department of Education, Culture and Sports, without whose blessing the classroom teachers would not and could not introduce anything new to the curriculum. It was hoped that the month-long Read-a-thon would lead both teachers and students to discover how delightful and useful the habit of reading was. And result in what may be a revolutionary discovery that students can learn the skills they are supposed to have effectively, and joyfully, from children's literature.

It was important, however, that the Ang Trip Ko, Libro! Read-a-thon did not add to the burden of the overworked public school teachers.

For without teacher support, SAS knew its good intentions would not go very far.

Commitments

Thus, SAS committed to the following: two full-day weekend training workshops run by teacher volunteers from International School Manila who were reading advocates themselves familiar with the reading promotion activities of its Children's Media Center; a set of 40 brand-new books for every Grade 4 classroom; colorful Read-a-thon Passports for every student for recording books read; class organizers to monitor the students' reading; glossy reading posters in full color with the likes of Aga Muhlach and Cris Villonco in a reading pose; an Ibong Adarna mural on tarpaulin for every school where children could mount paper feathers for every book read; an Andy Locsin-designed Reading Corner that the school would own after complying with all the Read-a-thon requirements.

SAS was asked: Why Grade 4 and why only the public schools? The grade level is critical in the development of functional literacy. The choice would also allow SAS to monitor if a reading activity such as the Read-a-thon would have any impact on the students. SAS decided to concentrate its efforts on public schools because they did not have as many resources and opportunities for professional development as private schools.

This school year, for instance, the Parents' Council of the Assumption Grade School in Makati successfully piloted a Read-a-thon and the Battle of the Books for two grade levels. The public schools do not have parent reading advocates like Assumption's Lizette Cojuangco, Lisa Periquet and Gianna Montinola.

Much remains to be done, but women like Lizzie and Margarita know that lamenting about the reading nonhabit will lead nowhere. Thus, they have taken the first bold step.

The author is a member of the Philippine Board on Books for Young People, tel. 372-3548/49. E-mail the author at nenisrc@hotmail.com

---

A graceful retelling of treasured lore

From page G1

Simple premise

The premise itself is ingenious if simple. Ducking from the constant patrolling of Japanese soldiers, a gaggle of Filipinos hide out in a bunker, sharing whatever little food can be found, leaving their shelter only when absolutely necessary, but basically trying to hold out without being seen, hopefully until the war and the carnage end. It's a disparate group, bound only by virtue of being neighbors. But they also share stories, of the strange and fearful, of the past and the painful. The stories float from each one like the ghosts that populate this book.

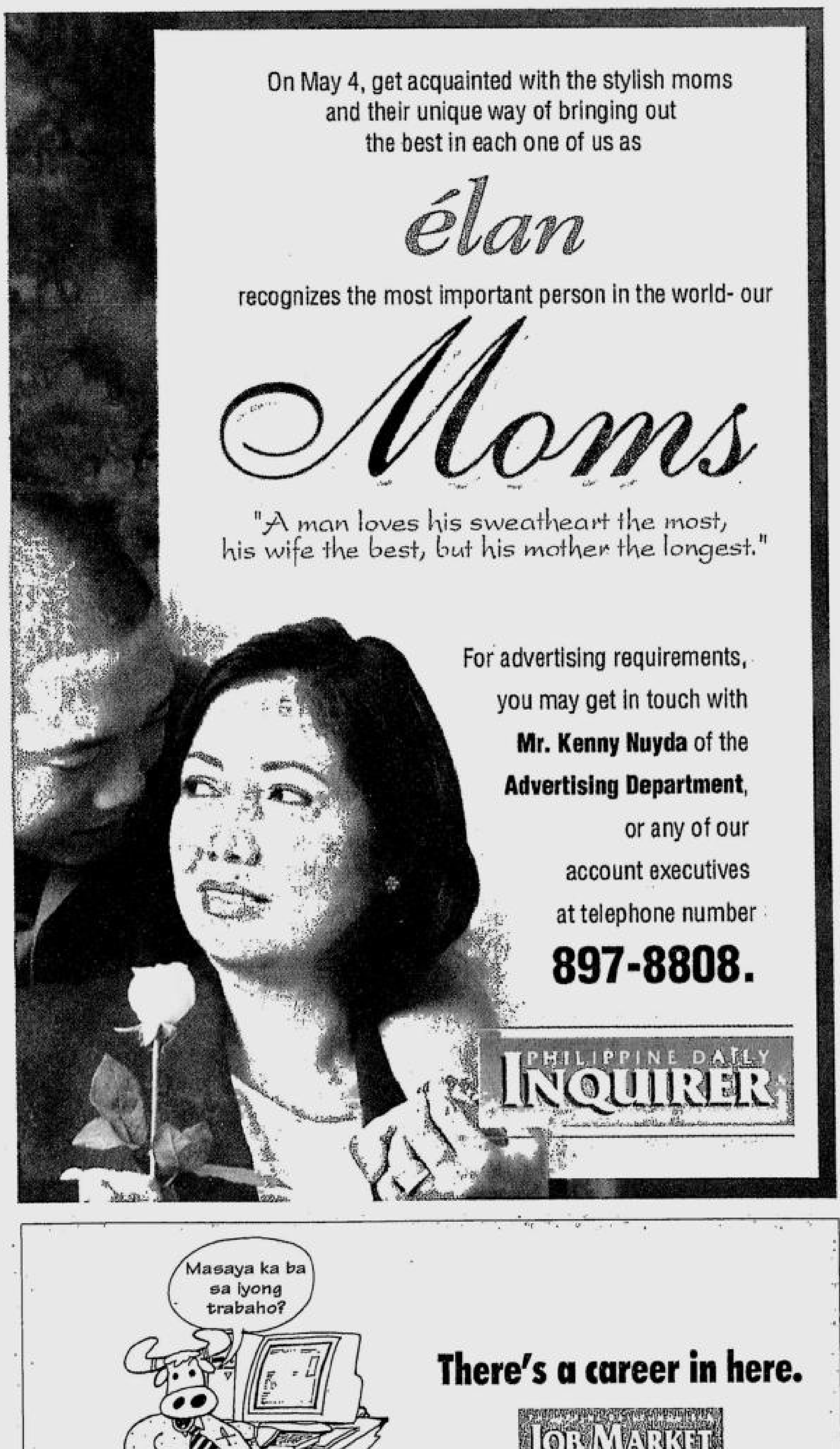
The novel is divided into four parts, each switching to a narrative based on the titular character's perspective. First is young Alejandro Karangalan, whose family owns the house where the Filipinos are hiding. Following him is Isabelle Karangalan, Jando's older sister who is put in danger while venturing from the shelter. Third is Doming Matapang's account, he the brave if torn guerrilla leader. The book ends with Alejandro's telling of their ordeal's final moments.

"When the Elephants Dance" ambles along at its own pace, pausing every now and then to impart a vignette or remembered story, and then continues on. The side stories begin spaced out, then curiously bundle together in the book's thick midsection, before vanishing altogether as "When the Elephants Dance" sprints to its breathtaking conclusion. Even as the basement's inhabitants face captivity, death and rape, the scattered stories enchant and enthrall, rendered vividly in Holthe's lovely prose.

There are stories of magical skeletons, the sea possessing people for its own, the terrifying powers of *tikbalangs* and the vengeance of the forest. There is the boy who could see the spirits of the dead, only to barter (the power) away for wealth. There are more tangible tales as well: of two sisters who find common ground too late, of an aristocrat's dangerous love for a proud peasant woman, of curses real and unreal. Holthe recounts each story with a fresh and assured voice, weaving them in and out of the horrible trap the basement's inhabitants find themselves in. Back in the present, masked Makapilis roams, innocents are killed while the mountain hides love, sacrifice, betrayal and finality.

While this writer quibbles a bit with the title (taken from a quote in a Robert Lapham book), the book itself is a thoroughly mesmerizing retelling of things we know, and things we don't know, about our past, both hidden and visible. There are multiple battles going on in "When the Elephants Dance," the Filipinos against the Spanish, the Filipinos against the Japanese, the material versus the immaterial, an invisible war made visible through Tess Uriza Holthe's graceful narrative. Take this dance and revel in a choreography that glides through time and space. There will be no regrets.

Available in hardcover at National Bookstore and Powerbooks



On May 4, get acquainted with the stylish moms and their unique way of bringing out the best in each one of us as

élan

recognizes the most important person in the world- our

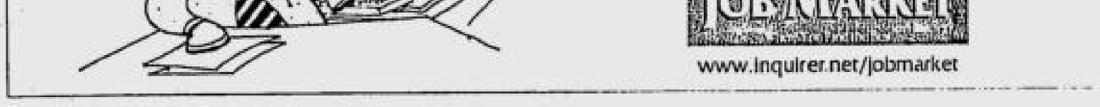
Moms

"A man loves his sweatheart the most, his wife the best, but his mother the longest."

For advertising requirements, you may get in touch with **Mr. Kenny Nuyda** of the **Advertising Department**, or any of our account executives at telephone number

897-8808.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER



Masaya ka ba sa iyong trabaho?

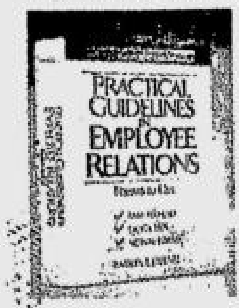
There's a career in here.

JOB MARKET

www.inquirer.net/jobmarket

Book on ABC of employee relations

THE BOOK "PRACTICAL Guidelines in Employee Relations" by Ramon T. Jimenez was released this month. It will be useful even for nonlawyers, giving forms and guidelines from A to Z on labor laws and practices. Limited copies are now available at 10/F Aurora Milestone Building, 1045 Aurora Blvd., QC, or call 421-0060. The book is also available at National Bookstore.



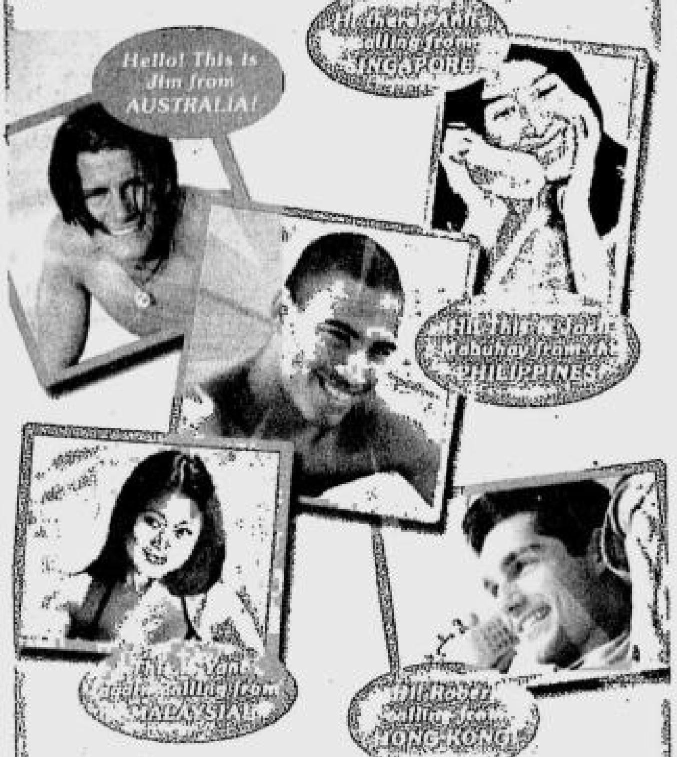
New literary mag now open for contributions

A NEW lifestyle/literature magazine is now open for contributions. The magazine called Oist! aims to become an alternative reading material that will cover a wide variety of topics. It will release its maiden issue in June.

Writers may submit poems, short stories and essays for its Literature section to be edited by Dr. Cirilo F. Bautista. Aside from the Literature section, the magazine will have a Visual/Performing Arts section to be edited by Aurora Yumul. For the Music section, Quark Henares will be at the helm. Francis Pasion will handle the Consumer section. For the Social Advocacy section, Gerardo Largoza will talk on economic political and social issues. The Relationships section will be edited by Rhandee Garlitos.

Call Ma-eh dela Cruz at (0917) 959-9469 or Redge Jimenez at (0917) 734-2163 or fax 896-5166.

HAVE MORE FRIENDS AROUND THE WORLD THRU...
COLORS of the world


Hello! This is Jim from AUSTRALIA!
calling from SINGAPORE
Mabuhay from the PHILIPPINES!
calling from MALAYSIA!
calling from HONG KONG

Different Voices ONE Experience

Call 1.908.000.0002

Now chat with guys and girls from around the world. More fun than any other chatline! CALL NOW!

From any PLDT landlines with NDD access
any Teletipid phones nationwide.
Also available thru Touch Card and Fonkard.
Calls are charged at Php 10 per minute.

network provided by:
PLDT convergence@home
colors of the world

ESKINOL
Face & Fortune
WIN
P1 million
and exciting showcases!!!

PROMO MECHANICS

How to Join and Win:
- Buy any size of Eskinol Classic, Eskinol Naturals, Eskinol Advance or Matte & Fresh and get a chance to win in the raffle draw.
- Write your name, address, signature and suking tindahan on a piece of a paper and attach the front and back label of any Eskinol Classic, Eskinol Naturals, Eskinol Advance or Eskinol Matte & Fresh.
- Enclose entry in an envelope and drop in drop boxes located in leading supermarkets, groceries and Aboitiz outlets or mail entry to:

Eskinol Face & Fortune c/o Basic Advertising, Inc.
Zaragoza Bldg, 102 Gamboa St., Legaspi Village, Makati City

aboitiz express QuikPac QuikCash QuikBox

- The labels should at least be 90% intact or complete. Only labels with authenticated security codes will be honored.
- There will be two preliminary draws and a grand draw.

Deadline for submission of entries as follows:
1st preliminary draw - April 27, 2002; 2nd preliminary draw - May 25, 2002; Grand draw - June 30, 2002.
Draw dates as follows: 1st preliminary - May 04, 2002; 2nd preliminary - June 01, 2002; Grand draw - July 06, 2002.
- All draws will be held live in *Magandang Tanghali Bayan* (MTB), ABS CBN in the presence of a BFAD representative.

PRIZES WORTH UP TO ₱2.5 MILLION!!!

DRAW	PRIZES	AREA OF WINNING ENTRY
1ST Preliminary Draw	(4) Audio-Video Entertainment Showcase	(1) GMA, (1) Luzon, (1) Visayas, (1) Mindanao
	(4) Computer Showcase	(1) GMA, (1) Luzon, (1) Visayas, (1) Mindanao
2ND Preliminary Draw	(4) Living Room Showcase	(1) GMA, (1) Luzon, (1) Visayas, (1) Mindanao
	(4) Kitchen Showcase	(1) GMA, (1) Luzon, (1) Visayas, (1) Mindanao
Grand Draw	Grand Prize : P 1,000,000	(1) National
	(1) 2nd Prize : P 300,000	(1) National
	(2) 3rd Prize : P 100,000	(1) GMA, (1) Luzon, (1) Visayas, (1) Mindanao

See posters for details   Per DOH-BFAD Permit No 0203 Series of 2002

"Imagine how my four-incher drove her wild!"
ALCATEL
12:30
actual size

Introducing the new Alcatel One Touch 511. Small and compact, yet packed with enough features to make you go crazy.

- EMS (Enhanced Messaging Service) allows you to send text, graphics, tones and smileys in one message
- Polyphonic ring tones of up to 8 instruments
- Composer and recorder functions
- 3 games in better resolution and polyphonic sound effects
- Lightweight (75 grams)
- Real aluminum front panel

P9,990.00
(open line)

ONE TOUCH 511
ALCATEL

Distributed by: Mobile Distribution Inc. Unit 501-502 Galleria Corporate Center, Edsa Q.C. Tel# 687-0577 / 687-0991

Dealers: ABC STORE, 622 JPIC Bldg. Shaw Blvd. Mandaluyong Tel.# 5330933 • **ADI TELECOMS**, 1408 Taipan Place Bldg., Emerald Ave. Ortigas Tel.# 6371011 • **BIANJEI**, Shoppesville Greenhills San Juan • **CELLTEX**, D12 Langka Lane Virramall, Greenhills Tel.# 7271739 • **CITY TECH**, Virramall San Juan • **CK CELLULAR NETWORK**, West Avenue Q.C. Tel.# 9222292 • **DIALCOMM TRADING**, Unit 1601 Galleria Corporate Center, EDSA Q.C. Tel.# 8890041 • **DIALOGUE COMMUNICATIONS**, 28/F Raffles Bldg. Emerald Ave. Ortigas Tel.# 9143780 • **DJGT**, Virramall San Juan • **GAMES AND GADGETS**, No.31 Ignacio Santos Diaz St. Cubao, Q.C. Tel# 7230920 • **GAMES AND GADGETS** (Cebu) 3/L, SM City Cebu Tel.#(032)2335700 • **GLOBOTEL**, Unit 117 Anson Arcade Bldg., Arnaiz Ave., Makati Tel.#8880103 • **GRAPHIC LIGHTS & DESIGNS**, Capt. Vicente Roa Ext. Cagayan de Oro Tel.# (088)8567991 • **MACTEL**, 1014-D Almeda Arcade Pasay Road, Makati Tel.# 8433062-66 • **MEGA CELLULAR NETWORK**, 1953-55 Buensalida Bldg. M. Adriatico Malate Tel.# 5265151 • **MEMOXPRESS**, Rm.813 Pacific Bldg. Quintin Paredes St. Binondo Tel#2439461-64 • **SELECTRONICS**, Park Square 1, Ayala Ctr. Makati Tel#8128389 • **SMARTLINK COMPUTER TRADING**, 6/L Shangri-la Plaza Mall, Mandaluyong Tel.# 6374168-69 • **TOPWIN**, Unit 7 Shoppers Mall II Cash & Carry Makati Tel.# 8180225 • **TOUCHCOMM PHILS**, 4/L Festival Supermall, Filinvest Alabang Tel.# 8501504 • **ULB INTERNATIONAL**, 3/L, SM Megamall Mandaluyong Tel.# 6357546 • **WELLCOM**, JMBC Bldg., San Isidro Makati Tel.# 8890041 • **WIRELESS CONNECTIONS**, Unit 406 Centerpoint Condo J. Vargas Ave., Ortigas Tel# 6381111

AIG Credit Cards

Sweet tooth found or wisdom tooth lost?

Whatever your needs may be — instant rewards on grocery shopping or free dental check-ups — we'll cover it.

Only AIG Credit Cards offers the new and unique Value Grocer that gives AIG Cardholders a free Half Gallon of Nestlé Ice Cream Classic Flavor – redeemable at any Rustan Supermarket – for any single or accumulated supermarket purchase worth P5,000.

Per DTI-NCR Permit # 0942 Series of 2002. Promo until June 10, 2002

We've really got you covered – from free dental treatments that include cleaning, simple tooth extractions and fillings, to free medical benefits like check-ups, x-rays and up to P5,000 hospitalization reimbursements. All these benefits are transferable within your family.

The AIG Gold Card combines ease of application with fast approval and a long list of extras that answers your day-to-day needs. Owning an AIG Credit Card definitely gives you security and the power to live in style.

Get an AIG Gold Card now.
Without a doubt, it's better than cash.

See flyers for details.

- **Get an AIG Gold Card Free for the first year and receive a Special Welcome Gift!** Simply use your AIG Gold Card and make a single or accumulated purchase of P3,000 within the first month from date of activation to get your FREE TRAVEL BAG!

  Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0730 Series of 2002. Promo runs March 08 - June 30, 2002

- **1.6% Installment Rate Promo (for 12 months installment term)** Apply now and readily avail of as low as 1.6% monthly interest rate when you transfer the balance from other credit cards to your AIG Credit Card. Availment of Balance Transfer Promo is subject to the approval of the AIG Credit Card application.

  Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0896 Series of 2002. Promo runs March 05 - July 31, 2002

Apply by Phone Now

636-8700

Nestlé

RusTan
SUPERMARKETS

AIG Credit Cards
We've got your family covered.

The Philam Group of Companies offers you a diversified and quality portfolio of insurance products and financial services:

PHILAM LIFE
Life & Accident Insurance

PHILAM INSURANCE
Property & Casualty Insurance

PHILAM CARE
Health Care Management

PHILAM PLANS
Pre-need Plans

PHILAM SAVINGS BANK
Savings & Mortgage

PHILAM ASSET MANAGEMENT
Mutual Fund Investment

PHILAM PROPERTIES
Property Development

AIG AIG Credit Card Company Philippines, Inc.
Credit Cards